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Monday April 27 1998

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The Guardian INTERNATIONAL

NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

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Squaddie violence

Privates on parade

G2 with European weather

Sabine Durrant meets Anne Robinson

Farewell Glenda Slagg



G2 pages 4-5

Roy Greenslade on:

A story of media backstabbing



Media: G2 pages 10-11

Blunkett drafts in Tory right

Michael White
Political Editor

THE Education and Employment Secretary, David Blunkett, is taking the unprecedented step of inviting backbench opposition MPs, including hardline rightwing Tories, into his office to discuss Government policies and their concerns.

Among the MPs called in for lunch at Mr Blunkett's departmental HQ were Tim Collins, former aide to John Major and Michael Howard, and David Ruffley, Kenneth Clarke's special adviser at the Treasury.

Both are leading members of what Tory whips call the "death or glory boys" in the 1997 intake of new Conservatives — MPs who deploy confrontational tactics to harass the Government in ways their older colleagues have largely abandoned in the face of Labour's *gigantic majority*.

They are also on the right of William Hague's party. As such they were startled to be offered the private office telephone number of the Schools Minister, Stephen Byers, to enable them to appeal to him directly with particular problems. Such favours are traditionally confined to backbench government loyalists.

But, on the eve of the Labour Government's first anniversary, ministers are being encouraged by Downing Street to engage in inclusive "big tent" politics, as it is known in the US.

'Cabinet ministers have been told to keep Labour backbenchers in close touch and to brief groups regularly. The Chancellor, Gordon Brown, is the most active briefer, even holding a session for Scottish and Scottish-born MPs with the manager of the Scottish football team, Craig Brown, this month. But the DFEE is breaking new ground in doing the same for at least four opposition groups, two Tory and two Liberal Democrat.

Yet Mr Blunkett, a leading municipal socialist of the early 80s, who basks in Mr Blair's warm approval, believes he is helping fulfil the Prime Minister's agenda for turning New Labour into the natural party of government — occupying as much of the Tories' political ground as possible.



'It's a good idea to be inclusive. If we include them all we can take over as the natural party of government'

— David Blunkett

"We are offering them the chance to raise issues for two reasons. It's quite a good idea to hear what's going on in their patch and they are more likely to be critical than our own side," said Mr Blunkett *last night*.

"The second reason is that it's a good idea to be inclusive. If we include them all we can take over as the natural party of government."

Some of the Conservative MPs who have met Mr Blunkett, Mr Byers and the Higher Education Minister, Kim Howells, are not so sure.

"The ostensible reason for having us in was to touch base and explain to us what they are doing in the interests of accountability and inclusivity," said Mr Ruffley, MP for Bury St Edmunds.

The MP had lunch with the ministerial trio last month in the company of Mr Collins, an ex-spin doctor MP for Westmorland and Lonsdale, and Nick St Aubyn, the new MP for Guildford. A fourth colleague, Eleanor Laing (Epping Forest), was invited but could not attend.

"Steve Byers did most of the talking and basically he seemed to be saying, 'I think you guys are screwing us' and wanted to square us," said Mr Ruffley.

Tory education ministers would sometimes see persistent Opposition MPs over a particular problem. But Conservatives regard this new tactic as an attempt to "schmooze" with potential troublemakers.

The two sides discussed thorny issues such as school *standards, funding for further* education, problems arising from the replacement of nursery vouchers, and constituency matters such as the closure of rural schools. Behind the smiles both sides had doubts.

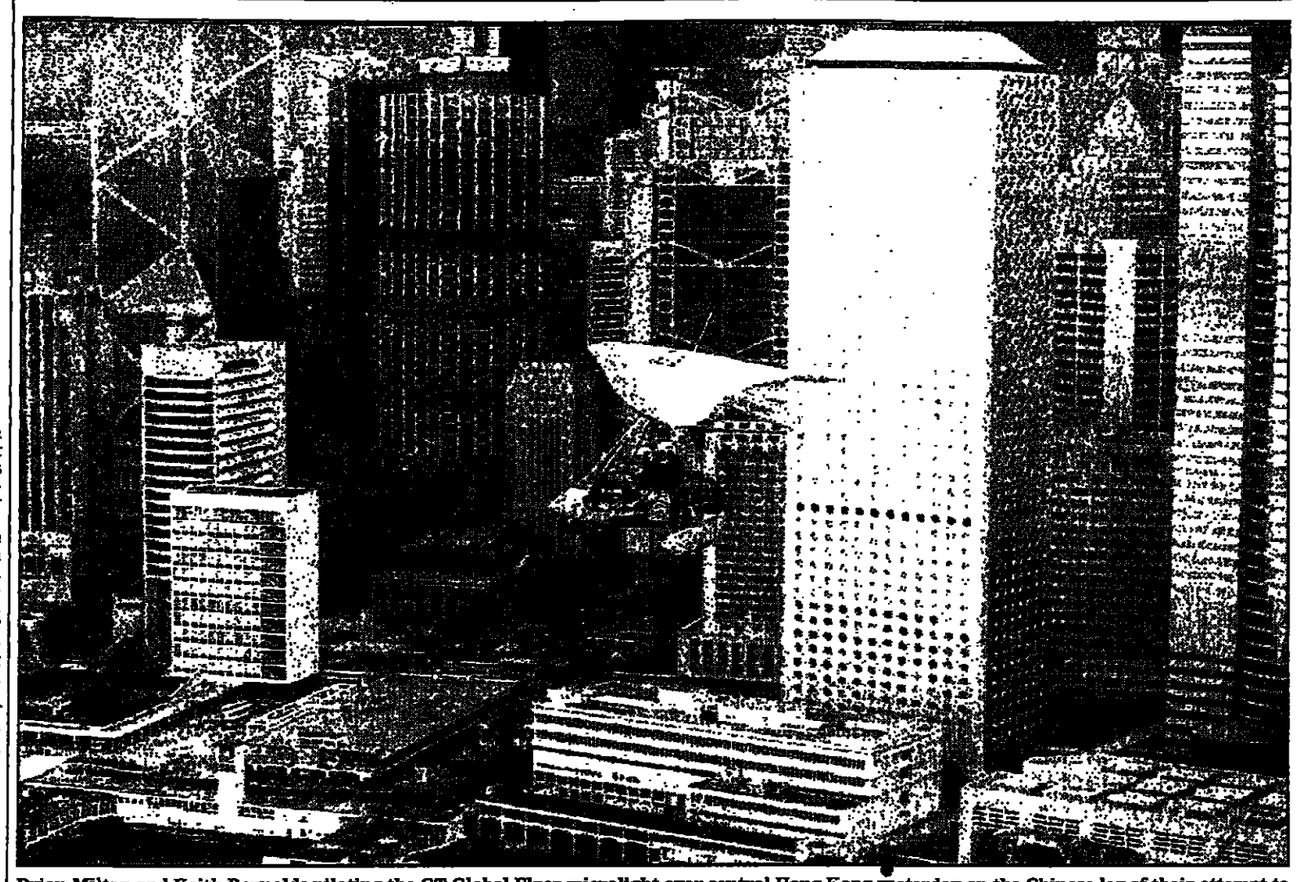
Some of the Tories thought ministers guilty of "macho posturing." Some ministers thought some of their guests to be "prats" or "a pain in the neck".

Ironically, the disclosure of Mr Blunkett's initiative came as Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, was forced to defend his own "constructive opposition" strategy of co-operation with Labour from charges made by some senior Liberal Democrats that he is "pulling too many punches". In a Radio 4 interview, Mr Ashdown insisted he is making a better job of opposition than the Tories.

Mr Ashdown fought off critics such as Charles Kennedy and Lord Russell who believe that Lib-Lab clashes in next month's local elections will expose the dangers of over-close co-operation.

"Where we have been constructive we have won gains that we would have otherwise never have won, and I think we won them for the country," he insisted.

'Phileas Fogg' pilots reach Hong Kong



Brian Milton and Keith Reynolds piloting the GT Global Flyer microlight over central Hong Kong yesterday on the Chinese leg of their attempt to circumnavigate the world in 80 days. Delay in permission to overfly China left them stranded in Hanoi for five days and put them behind schedule

Child killer faces cash blow

Luke Harding
and Michael White



THE Government was moving last night to prevent criminals such as the child killer Mary Bell from profiting by collaborating on books about their lives.

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, is considering including the payments in a strengthened version of the Proceeds of Crime Act, which is designed to confiscate the ill-gotten gains of drugs dealers.

The Guardian revealed on Saturday that Bell has been paid more than £50,000 for lengthy interviews with the author of a book about her. Tony Blair has asked Mr Straw to confirm whether she will benefit financially from her collaboration.

Bell, now aged 41, was convicted 30 years ago of the manslaughter of two boys in Newcastle upon Tyne, and given a life sentence. She was released on licence in 1980 and given a new identity, which has been guarded by injunctions. The privacy aspect of the case will also be examined by the Home Office.

Mr Straw has already announced he is considering how to extend the scope of the Proceeds of Crime Act. Its success prompted what one minister yesterday called an attempt "to widen the confiscation of assets from a life of crime to stop people getting away with it".

That could now include cases such as Bell's collaboration with the author Gita Sereny. Current legislation only prevents deals done within six years of a conviction, Home Office sources said.

Ms Sereny's book covers Bell's life since leaving prison. But Downing Street yesterday stressed the Prime Minister was acting amid concern that anyone should make money from a "heinous" crime.

The Home Office said Mr Straw disapproved of the idea of the book, irrespective of payment. He will also examine whether Bell's decision to talk compromises an injunction preventing her from being identified. The identity of her 14-year-old daughter is also protected. Although Bell has apparently talked at length about herself, another injunction prevents her former husband from revealing any details about their daughter.

The Prison Service also launched an investigation yesterday into reports that mass murderer Dennis Nilsen has smuggled his autobiography, The History of a Drowning Boy, out of jail in an attempt to have it published.



Nilsen, jailed in 1983 for killing 12 men, is said to be touting the 453-page work around publishers through a friend for an advance payment of up to £100,000.

The Prime Minister's intervention in the Mary Bell case follows an approach by June Richardson, whose son Martin Brown, aged four, was asphyxiated by Bell in 1968. Two months later Bell strangled Brian Howe, aged three.

In a new preface three years ago to her 1972 book, The Case of Mary Bell, Ms Sereny describes how Bell has created "a normal life", adding: "It is my hope that one day, soon, she and I will talk again."

Downing Street said Mr Straw's inquiry would take place this week. "There is concern about the anguish and distress this development will have on the family of the victims," a spokesman said.

"Clearly this is an emotive story. On the one hand you have someone seeking privacy and on the other hand making money."

The book, Cries Unheard, is to be published by Macmillan on May 7 and is likely to be a huge moneyspinner. Serialisation rights have been sold to a Sunday newspaper for a substantial sum. Macmillan has refused to comment on whether Bell had been paid, directly or indirectly, or on its contract with Ms Sereny.

Tory Boy satirises Tony's boy in BBC drama based on Mandelson role

Kamal Ahmed,
Media Correspondent,
in Montreux

COMEDIAN Harry Enfield, who has described Peter Mandelson as ghastly, secretive and arrogant, is to star in a television drama satirising the role of the Minister Without Portfolio.

Called Norman Normal — A Politician For The People, the one-off BBC project will see Enfield rise to the post of special adviser to the Millennium Dome Experience.

In a thinly veiled broadside against the agents of spin and the growth of political opportunism, Enfield will play a politician who oscillates wildly between left and right in his efforts to be popular.

Such is Norman Normal's success in dumping political friends and attacking enemies, he takes on the title Lord Cool of Britannia. An official divorce between Labour and Cool Britannia now seems inevitable.

Mr Mandelson, whom Enfield has attacked in his newspaper column, will hope that Mr Normal does not take off in the way that Enfield's pimply Tory Boy caught the mood as Britain swung against the Conservatives.

The drama will reignite interest in the art establishment's fraught relationship with the Labour government.

Ben Elton recently attacked the Cool Britannia movement as meaningless, a view supported by Wayne Hemingway, the head of hip clothing company Red Or Dead.

Last November Enfield lambasted the Prime Minister at a drinks reception for Labour supporters.

"We have come to tell you to sack Mandelson," Enfield told Mr Blair. "He has got you into Downing Street, now stab him in the back."

Before being dragged away by his wife Lucy and Elton, Enfield shouted out: "I speak for the nation."

The comedian later apologised for being "very rude" and blamed his outburst on "a glass of champagne or three on an empty stomach".

When Mr Mandelson wrote to Enfield inviting him and his wife for lunch, the comedian said he was busy as Lucy was "washing her hair for a year".

The new drama, written by journalist Craig Brown, will also satirise other politicians.

Computer technology will be used to show Enfield talking to Edward Heath, Margaret Thatcher and Harold Macmillan.

☐ In its first year in power, has Labour delivered on its promises? Page 5
☐ Larry Elliott on the two Gordon Browns. Page 17
☐ Labour trumpeted the arrival of Blair's Babes, but what have they done for women? G2, page 6
☐ Roy Greenslade reports on how the journalists and spin doctors have fallen out, Media Guardian, page 11



Inside

Britain
Hard drugs, including heroin, are damaging more young people than ever before, according to the UK's biggest drugs charity.
Page 4

World News
Germany's extreme right wing party People's Union stunned Bonn by taking 13 per cent of the vote in a Saxony state election.
Page 7

Sport
Page 12

Obituaries 10
Comment and Letters 9
Features 15
Crosswords 16
G2
Quick Crossword 15
TV, Radio and Weather 16

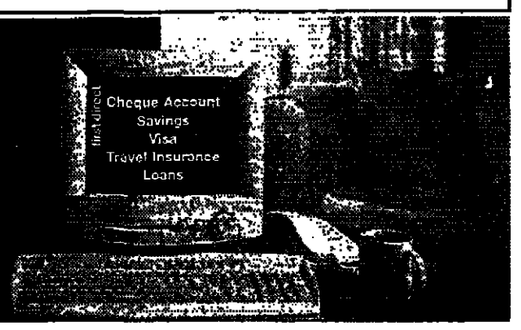
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Democratic Unionists claim Mowlam let slip eavesdropping information □ Blair to press Sinn Fein on backing for Ulster peace deal

Loyalists accused in bugging row

Rory Carroll

THE Democratic Unionist Party was accused yesterday of trying to destabilise today's crucial meeting between Tony Blair and Sinn Fein by claiming that the Northern Ireland Secretary, Mo Mowlam, had alerted the republican party to an undercover bugging operation.

The allegation unnerved republicans already struggling to calm supporters after the loyalist murder of a Catholic student and the attempted bombing of a bar.

The Prime Minister, who is expected to press Sinn Fein to stop delaying over whether to urge a 'yes' vote in next month's referendum, may have to answer questions over the DUP allegation.

The party said Ms Mowlam, accidentally tipped off Sinn Fein during Stormont talks that a Belfast house frequented by its negotiator, Gerry Kelly, was bugged.

She alluded to information which could only have been gleaned from eavesdropping on the house, said Peter Robinson, deputy leader of the DUP.

Mr Robinson claimed that his information had been leaked by security sources furious that a three-year operation had been uncovered.

A Northern Ireland Office spokesman said: "It's not worthy of comment. It is ridiculous to suggest ministers would ever jeopardise security."

After an uncharacteristic delay, Sinn Fein confirmed that several weeks ago a number of listening devices were removed after the "accidental" discovery of a bug beneath the floorboards.

Previously, Sinn Fein has courted publicity after such discoveries. A spokesman said the party had not gone public so as to give Mr Kelly time to compile a dossier on the incident.

The spokesman rubbished Mr Robinson's claim that Sinn Fein avoided publicity so as not to damage its relationship with the Government.

Today's Downing Street meeting comes at a crucial time when republicans are pressing for immediate troop withdrawals and the Government is pressing for a commitment to back a 'yes' vote in the May 22 referendum.

Republicans dithering over whether to support the deal will watch whether Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness claim any concessions on troops.

And Unionists, suspicious that the deal is a sell-out, will watch whether Mr Blair and Dr Mowlam risk irking Sinn Fein by broaching the question of decommissioning weapons.

The meeting will be overshadowed by Saturday's sectarian murder in Crumlin, Co Antrim, of Ciaran Heffron, aged 22, who was shot in the head on his way home from a Friday night in the pub.

Mr Heffron lived with his seriously-ill mother. He was a university student who worked part-time at Belfast International Airport a few miles from Crumlin.

No organisation claimed responsibility but police are questioning two men.

David Ervine of the Progressive Unionist Party blamed the Loyalist Volunteer Force, which is opposed to the peace deal. "Another great blow for Ulster? — No, I don't think so," he said.

The LVF was also suspected of murdering a Catholic council worker four days earlier.

Security forces warned that there will be more attacks from fringe loyalists and republicans.

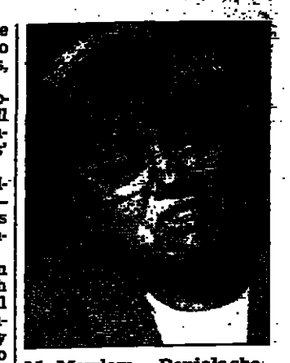
Martin McGuinness urged nationalists to remain calm but tension rose after a bomb attack on a Catholic-owned bar and restaurant, also blamed on loyalists.

A device containing up to two pounds of commercial explosives was used in the attack on Saturday night which inflicted slight damage and panicked around two dozen customers at Steptoe's, in Killmore, Co Armagh.

John Hume's Social Democratic and Labour Party will today try to ease the trepidation by launching its 'yes' campaign.

The Government is providing funding to all parties — including the 'no' campaigns of the DUP and the UK Unionist Party.

At the request of Sinn Fein and the Labour Party, South Africa's African National Congress will send a delegation, led by former secretary general Cyril Ramaphosa, to Belfast and Dublin to help foster peace.



Mo Mowlam — Denials she alerted Sinn Fein

Mother turns to protest



Mother-of-three Janne Weir and her husband Robert: 'In 40 minutes we did not get one straight answer from Paddy Ashdown' PHOTOGRAPH: SUSANNAH BINNEY

Straw pledges action on paedophiles

Tighter controls promised as riot over child killer is condemned

Michael White
Political Editor

THE Home Secretary, Jack Straw, yesterday flagged up plans to keep dangerous paedophile offenders behind bars indefinitely, but condemned the "disgraceful behaviour" of people who rioted in Bristol over released child killer Sidney Cooke.

In an attempt to defuse public concern over the highly-publicised release of offenders like Cooke, the Home Secretary emphasised that ministers intend to obtain greater control over them.

"It is vital that people do not take the law into their own hands," Mr Straw stressed on a weekend when the Liberal Democrat leader, Paddy Ashdown, was also criticised in his Yeovil constituency, near Bristol, and stood up to what he called "lynch mobs".

Mr Straw said the proposed Sex Offenders Order will become part of the Crime and Disorder Act which reaches its Commons committee stage tomorrow. The order gives the police power to stop offenders acting in ways which could threaten children, such as loitering near playgrounds.

"Someone like Sidney Cooke, who is on the Sex Offenders Register anyway, could be subject to one of these Sex Offender Orders and that would lay down controls over him," Mr Straw said on BBC1's Breakfast with Frost.

Extended supervision orders for those sentenced in the future — which do not apply to past offenders like Cooke — are also planned.

The Home Secretary confirmed that measures may be on the way to keep dangerous criminals behind bars indefinitely, though such a proposal could fall foul of civil liberty lobbyists and the European Convention on Human Rights.

As a holding measure he signalled the Government's intention to look at "the idea of indeterminate sentences for those who are dangerous like Cooke but who are not within the mental health system".

The Department of Health is already examining the risks to the public of releasing violent schizophrenics, unsupervised, from hospital into the community.

Mr Straw was uncompromising about the "petrol bombs and thuggery" over Cooke outside a Bristol police station. "I understand the concern people have about paedophiles. But there is no excuse for this kind of disgraceful behaviour, particularly where it's directed against the police who ... are there to protect the community from paedophiles," he wrote in the Mail on Sunday.

He revealed police fears that vigilante activity will simply drive paedophiles undercover, making their supervision still harder.

Organisers of the protests in Yeovil are planning to link up with other anti-paedophile campaigns around the country in an effort to maintain the momentum they believe has been built up by their demonstrations.

Following their stormy meeting with Mr Ashdown, the protesters complained that politicians did not appear to understand the strength of feeling on the issue and urged the Government to speed up new measures to protect the public from convicted paedophiles.

Parents stormed out of the meeting with Mr Ashdown on Saturday after he appealed for calm and warned the protests were hindering attempts to resolve the question of long-term residence for Cooke.

Demonstrators warn MPs: Get a move on and pass new laws

Geoffrey Gibbs

JANNE Weir, a mother of three who works with special needs children is not, by nature, a typical protester.

But she is one of the hundreds of people accused by politicians of doing more harm than good by demonstrating outside Yeovil police station.

"We have achieved a lot in a week. It is out in the open which is where it should be instead of behind closed doors and it has kept reminding our politicians of the strength of public feeling," Mrs Weir said yesterday.

"They don't seem to see the same urgency. Our message to them is listen to what the people are saying ... stop sitting back and get a move on with passing these laws."

Parents had been "exceedingly disappointed" with local MP Paddy Ashdown's response at the weekend to their concerns. "He knew what he was going to say and when that did not appear to have the right effect he appeared to lose it. In 40 minutes we did not get one straight answer from him. I just hope that people don't have short memories when it comes to the election."

She said the protests had been sparked off because people learned Cooke was in Yeovil and nobody knew what it entailed.

Nobody had tried to dispel suggestions that he would be held in the town's Summerlands Hospital and she fully understood why some parents had decided to withold their children from the neighbouring Westfield Infants School.

"He is a very dangerous paedophile. Our children's freedom has been suppressed greatly over the years ... We all try to educate our children without scaring them, but when you are told you have got someone like that coming into the community you are going to do anything in your power to protect your children.

"As far as we know there will not be any more organised public demonstrations, but what we would like to do now is link up with other campaigns.

"There are lots of little voices in lots of areas around the country. If we can get a big voice things might move a bit quicker."

Iran 'holding Briton on spying charges'

Julian Borger in Tehran and Ian Black

A BRITON is being held by the Iranian security services on charges of spying after he was arrested on the Iran-Iraq border apparently posing as a BBC journalist, a Tehran newspaper reported yesterday.

The Al-Jomhuri Islami daily named the arrested man as Robert Gavin, and referred to him as a senior member of MI6. The report said he had been questioned for the past week and had confessed to spying for British intelligence after being arrest in a military zone in the frontier province of Kurdistan, a mountainous region used as a supply route by Iraqi Kurdish rebels.

The Foreign Office said last night that the British embassy in Tehran hoped to get more information from their Iranian counterparts today but it is understood that the man in question is not an intelligence agent.

Iran is a top priority for all arms of British intelligence. The Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, revealed only last week that efforts by MI6 and GCHQ, the government's eavesdropping centre, had helped frustrate Iranian attempts to procure nuclear components in the UK.

According to the Iranian report, Mr Gavin had claimed to be working for the BBC but had only a tourist visa. A BBC spokesman denied he was known to them.

The report comes at a delicate time for relations with Iran. Diplomatic ties are being tentatively restored after the election to president last year of a moderate cleric, Mohammed Khatami.

"The policy of general political and economic isolation may be counter-productive," said Mr Cook earlier this year.

In February the European Union under the British presidency lifted a ban on high-level contacts with Iranian officials, in marked contrast to the United States' continued policy of isolation. The ban had been imposed last April after a German court ruled that Iran's leaders had

> 'With a tourist visa, he entered military zones posing as a BBC reporter'

ordered the 1992 assassination of three Kurdish dissidents in a Berlin restaurant.

Al-Jomhuri Islami — a newspaper close to conservative elements in Iran's government — said Mr Gavin had been arrested while filming in restricted areas.

"Holding a tourist visa, he entered military zones posing as a BBC reporter, and photographed and filmed military sites without a permit," said the report. It also quoted Arab diplomats in Tehran as saying Mr Gavin had filmed sensitive military sites in neighbouring Arab countries and shown the films on BBC television.

An Iranian government official said a man called Robert Gavin had applied for a journalist visa last year but the request had been turned down for reasons the official could not recall.

A more senior government source said: "He could be some sort of freelancer trying to impress his bosses. But no real journalist would be in a military region like that. There is something not right about this."

The official source said he thought it unlikely that the newspaper would have published such a detailed report without some form of confirmation from Iran's security services.

Relations between Britain and Iran, bad since the 1979 revolution and still overshadowed by the fatwa threatening Satanic Verses author Salman Rushdie, have periodically worsened because of mutual accusations of espionage.

In 1994 Britain expelled a diplomat from the Iranian embassy after he was discovered distributing forged documents on Western policy in Bosnia.

That followed angry exchanges over British charges that Iranian intelligence had been in contact with the IRA. Tehran denied the charge and claimed that Britain had been bugging its embassy in London.

And last year Iran falsely accused the British chargé d'affaires in Tehran at that time of being a spy. There were suggestions that the charge was a product of mischief-making by hardliners.

Narcoleptic trance rock promises fast promotion

Review

Garth Cartwright

The Dandy Warhols
LA2, London

ROCK music loves its clichés about the hard road to the top. Yet for every Pulp (10 years before the slightest sniff of success) there is an Oasis (instant megastardom). And for every Drugstore there is a Dandy Warhols.

When Drugstore opened the show at LA2, you could sense the frustration. In the mid-nineties the music press hailed them as the band most likely to succeed. Instead, record company problems rendered the band most invisible. With a new album, White Magic For Lovers, finally out, they are desperately trying to escape rock's third division.

Playing competent if unimaginative indie pop, Drugstore's secret weapon is their extrovert singer, Isabel Monteiro. Her big, breathless voice and loud presence hold attention, but the songs never rise above average and they only move the crowd when Brazilian-born Monteiro teases the audience about England's Word Cup chances. What's needed, she suggests, is a miracle. But that's also what it will take for Drugstore to enter the premier league.

The Dandy Warhols were formed in an Oregon basement by four anglophiles. They too were acclaimed as the next big thing when their independently released debut Dandys Rule OK came out in 1996. Signed to Parlophone, they embraced a lavish rock lifestyle before even a whiff of stardom came their way.

A spanking from the record company, eager readjustment and a move to London appear to have restored some sense of perspective. But the music press still love them for their pop star swagger, druggie references and propensity for playing encores nude.

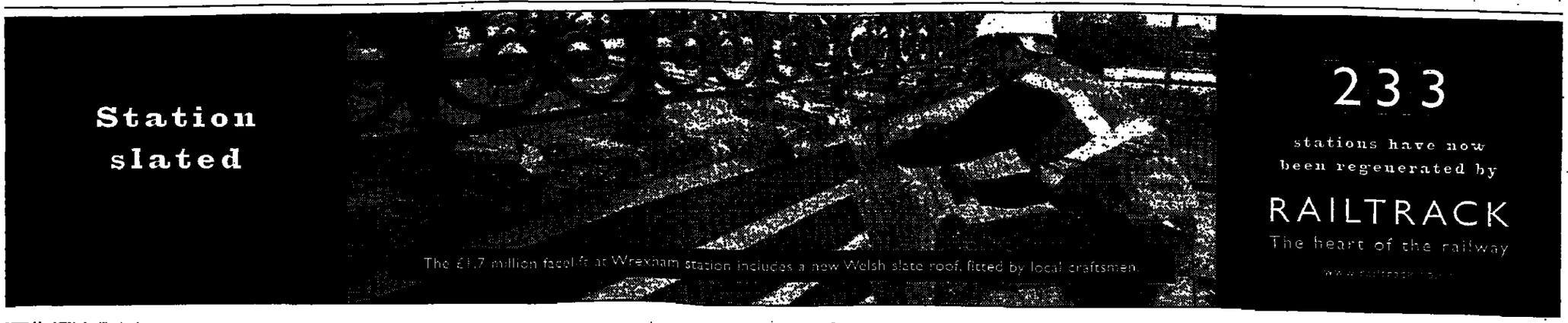
Friday night found the Dandys more than competent live. Muscular keyboardist Zia McCabe threatened to punch anyone who attempted to stage-dive.

Dividing the set between lush, droning psychedelic rock and jangly guitar pop, they paraded a pale, sullen quality normally reserved for resident Britpop stars. At their best on slow, meandering numbers, the four-piece band demonstrated a musical ability well removed from your average indie outfit.

Their current top 30 single, Not If You Were The Last Junkie On Earth, has garnered them a lot of attention, not least because the video features dancing hypodermics. Racing through it on stage, they appeared savagely cynical, the sound and look suggesting that more than a few illicit chemicals had been consumed. (Their current album, by the way, is called Come Down.) Being Americans, they find rock, not pop, infinitely more comfortable.

Having got the hit out of the way halfway through the set, they returned to their narcoleptic trance rock.

Expect promotion to stardom soon, with accompanying tales of burn-out and rehab.



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An established attraction



'They don't do red nightclubs any more. Sometimes when I am here on my own I can hear the laugh of Diana Dors'

Gerard Simi (above)





Backstage at the Revuebar . . . Girls relaxing before another striptease extravaganza in the Scarlet Show Bar and (right) a dancer from the age of innocence

MAIN PHOTOGRAPH: SEAN SMITH

Soho's erotic pioneer still teasing at 40

Dan Glaister on the striptease joint that sought a touch of class

IT PAVED the way for erotic entertainment in post-war Britain, aiming to bring a touch of glamour to Soho. Now, as it celebrates its 40th birthday, the Raymond Revuebar has assumed the status of one of the grand old men of the area. It is so much part of the establishment that its distinctive neon sign is preserved at the insistence of Westminster Council.

"That sign is not a pretty sign," says Gerard Simi, the owner, who bought the Raymond Revuebar from the founder last year after working as chief choreographer for 15 years. "But it is a landmark, an icon. It is as famous as Piccadilly Circus. You can even buy postcards of it."

After 40 years of stereotypical men in macs, young lads, and now groups of tourists and couples — gay and straight — Mr Simi is determined to hang on to the club's unique decor.

"I want to keep it as it is," he says, sitting in the red flocked glory of the Scarlet Show Bar. "They don't do red nightclubs any more. Sometimes when I am here on my own I can hear the laugh of Diana Dors. It's a cliché, but I can."

The main auditorium, which holds an audience of 220 for the club's twice-nightly striptease extravaganzas, is dominated by an equally extravagant chandelier. "Where else can you see a chandelier like that in an auditorium?" Mr Simi asks. "Maybe at the Royal Opera House. And you see this?" He stops before a huge brass wall relief that hides within it a light. "This is horrendous, but I must keep it."



The Beatles with Paul Raymond (centre) in 1967

Although in terms of interior design it may be stuck in the late 1950s, in other ways the Revuebar is keeping up with the times. "The Raymond Revuebar has changed over the years. What we are trying to do is reinvent striptease. Striptease got lost in the 1980s with the arrival of lap dancing. Lap dancing is not striptease, it is just a dancing girl improvising. We are the last bastion of striptease: strip with a tease."

Mr Simi has extended the opening hours — until last year the theatre would be dark after 11.30 — and introduced men into the acts.

"I wanted to broaden the audience, I wanted to do a show for everybody. Mostly it's a girlie show for men, but I wanted something for the wives as well. If we have a party of Russian tourists here, I don't think they should have to leave their wives at home because there's nothing for them. I'm not really catering for the gay crowd, although there is a special gay show once a month."

Nevertheless, Mr Simi recognises the importance of the pink pound to the rejuvenation of Soho.

"Soho is a fantastic place. It really is still a village inside London. But five years ago it was also quite a sinister place. The gay community has helped bring the life and lights and fun back to Soho."

Mr Simi disputes the contention that the British are sexually repressed. "The British are obsessed by sex," he says. "Just look at the tabloids. The silent majority don't have any problem with sex. People here go on sex holidays, groups of girls going to the Mediterranean. It is a nation of Shirley Valentines."

Mr Simi said he had a "good rapport" with Paul Raymond before the founder sold to him. Now, there is little contact. "I know he still carries on with his businesses, but I never see him now."

The Paul Raymond Organisation still pursues its magazine and property interests.

Mr Simi first went to work at the Revuebar in the 1970s. "I was a dancer and we had a month off and were lying on a nudist beach when we thought, why don't we do a show like Oh! Calcutta! or Hair. Paul Raymond saw us and booked us."

Now, with 50 staff, Mr Simi is sitting on a prime piece of Soho real estate. But he has no plans to move out, and fully expects the club to celebrate its 50th anniversary.

Reviewing Raymond

☐ Paul Raymond was half of a clairvoyant act called Mr and Miss Tree.

☐ The Arts Council helped to fund the Dragon Ladies' *Grotesque Burlesque* Revue at the Raymond Revuebar, featuring latex, body parts and multiple tattoos.

☐ One of the Raymond Revuebar's acts featured a dolphin trained to remove a woman's bra.

☐ Paul Raymond's real name is Geoffrey Quinn.

☐ As a 14-year-old, Raymond used to watch through the keyhole as his aunt undressed.

☐ In 1958 the Raymond Revuebar became the first legal nude show with moving dancers. Previously, nude performers had to adopt stationary poses.

☐ Raymond was fined £5,000 in 1961 for keeping a "disorderly house".

☐ In the seventies Raymond, with five theatres, was the West End's biggest impresario.

☐ In 1992 he was declared to be Britain's richest man, knocking the Duke of Westminster off the top of the list, with a fortune estimated at £1.5 billion, much of it in property. Estimates of his current fortune vary from £350 million to £1.65 billion.

☐ Artistes at the Raymond Revuebar have included Trixie Kent, Mika Mingo, Bonnie Bell, the Ding Dong Girl, Tempest Storm, Cheri Thunder and Melody Bubbles.

Maxwell case lawyer paid £½m

Ministers raise heat in campaign against big legal aid earnings

Clare Dyer
Legal Correspondent

THE QC who represented one of Kevin Maxwell's co-defendants was paid nearly £500,000 by the taxpayer in 1996–97 for his defence.

Peter Rook's payment is among the 20 highest from legal aid in that year. The 20 barristers will be named in a parliamentary answer tomorrow as the Government squares up against increased Bar opposition to its plans to curb high legal aid fees.

Mr Rook defended Robert Bunn, who had charges against him discontinued after he had a heart attack during the Maxwell fraud trial.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine, enraged the Bar's leaders when he dubbed its highest earners "fat cats" and pledged to cut their fees from legal aid. In a Lords debate last December he revealed that 35 unnamed barristers had received legal aid payments totalling between £270,000 and £575,000 for criminal work in 1996–97, and 20 others between £203,000 and £411,000 for civil work.

The big earners will be revealed by Geoff Hoon, minister in the Lord Chancellor's Department, in answer to a question by Colin Pickthall. Mr Pickthall is parliamentary private secretary to Alun Michael, the Home Office minister responsible for criminal policy.

The Government has been paving the way to cut legal aid fees for big criminal cases with a series of public attacks on "fat cat" barristers. Lord Irvine revealed in a Lords debate last July that "significant numbers" of QCs earned over £1 million a year, without making it clear that these were not legal aid lawyers. He said: "Fat cat lawyers railing at the inequity of court fees do not attract the sympathy of the public."

In September the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, told barristers at their annual conference it was "astonishing" that 1 per cent of criminal cases took 40 per cent of the criminal legal budget. He said: "The days in which lawyers, especially the senior criminal bar, could simply apply upward pressure on the going rate ... and catapult themselves into ever higher earnings brackets must end."

In December, Lord Irvine said barristers earned much more than any other profession from taxpayers' money, and almost 1,000 earned more from legal aid in 1996–97 than hospital consultants are paid.

In an attempt to counter the bad publicity, the Bar Council has released copies of letters to the legal aid board from some of the high earners protesting that the figures are misleading. They say the sums are wrongly portrayed by the media as annual earnings, when they include VAT, often cover work done over more than one year, and take no account of expenses.

On the other hand, the figures may not represent the barrister's total earnings, as some receive money from other sources.

Daniel Brennan QC, vice-chairman of the Bar, who received £380,000 from civil legal aid in 1996–97, said he won most of his cases and therefore most of his fees were reimbursed to the legal aid board by the loser.

The Bar Council points out that Mr Rook, although paid £497,757 in 1996–97, received nothing from legal aid the previous year or this year. But he spends much of his time prosecuting.

American four-year-old kills friend

Martin Kettle
in Washington

A SIX-year-old boy was shot dead by a four-year-old friend at a birthday party after the children found a .38 calibre pistol in a handbag, North Carolina police said yesterday.

Emergency services were called to the home of six-year-old Carlos Gilmer in Greensboro after neighbours heard a shot. They found the boy dead in a downstairs room and the four-year-old playing outside.

The victim's godmother, Beulah Lindsay, was was upstairs preparing for Carlos's party. Neighbours said she had been hanging a "Happy Birthday" banner on the wall shortly before the shooting.

The case is the latest in a series of unrelated incidents in the United States of children killing people with guns. It comes less than 48 hours after a Pennsylvania youth killed a teacher and wounded a pupil at a school dance.

Witnesses in the Greensboro shooting said the two children had been having a pretend gun-battle before the incident.

"They always used to come up to me going 'Pow! Pow!'," said 12-year-old neighbour Tabatha White. "He probably went up to Carlos and did the same thing."

Greensboro police said that the four-year-old shot Carlos in the neck.

Police would not name the suspected killer, nor say who owned the gun. However, they confirmed that they are considering charging its owner under a state law that prohibits leaving guns accessible to minors.

After the earlier incident in Edinboro, Pennsylvania, police charged 14-year-old Andrew Wurst with criminal homicide, reckless endangerment and other charges relating to weapons and drugs. The shootings took place at a school graduation dance on Friday night.

Wurst shot a teacher, John Gillette, in the head on a patio and then went into the hall, where he fired several more shots, wounding one person and grazing two others. He left the building and was arrested shortly afterwards.He was carrying a .25 calibre handgun registered to his father.

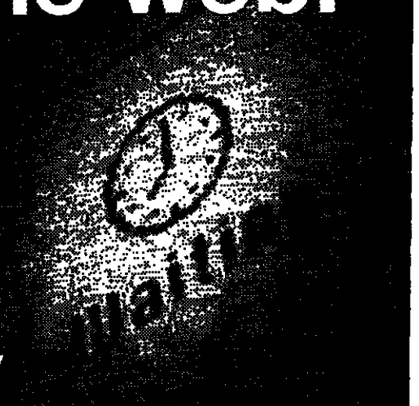
Last month four students and a teacher were shot dead by two children in Jonesboro, Arkansas.

"This is something that takes them away from what they see on the street, away from the depressing football matches on television and back to the romance of the old Arabic movies," said Khaled Farahat, Cairo critic.
Round the world with Titanic

Arts, G2 page 7

GRD01

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Straw rejects report of rise in drugs use

Alan Travis
Home Affairs Editor

HARD drugs are damaging more young people than ever, according to a report by Britain's biggest drugs charity.

Turning Point claims that increasing numbers of teenagers suffer from the effects of heroin addiction. The charity claims that the number of young people it treated last year increased by 12 per cent to 29,599, including a dramatic rise in young women.

Asked about the report, the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, strongly denied that the Government was losing the war on drugs.

Speaking yesterday on BBC1's Breakfast with Frost, Mr Straw said: "It is not the case that more and more and more young people are taking drugs.

"The best evidence based on British crime surveys and other very independently-conducted surveys is that drug-taking among young people is stabilising.

"There's some evidence to suggest that it had gone down a little."

The report throws a shadow over a white paper, to be published today, which sets out a 10-year strategy for dealing with drug-taking.

As well as an increase in heroin use, the Turning Point report also shows a rise in use of ecstasy and cocaine among young people.

Mr Straw did acknowledge that too many young people were trying drugs to allow any complacency.

"Half of all youngsters have experimented with drugs, and that's far too high a proportion," he said. The white paper, to be unveiled by the "Drugs Tsar" Keith Hellawell, will propose counselling together with "healthy lifestyle" classes for school children.

But at its heart is a compulsory drug testing and treatment order that will steer offenders who use illicit drugs into treatment. New Home Office research shows that 63 per cent of all those taken to police stations after being arrested *tested positive for* illicit drugs.

Today's white paper says those who are convicted of possessing cannabis should be referred to counselling, and that hard-drug addicts who steal to pay for their habits should be sent for compulsory drug treatment.

Ministers insist that the latest American research shows that treatment programmes do not have to be voluntary to be successful.

But treatment workers fear that the current overburdened network of treatment services will be overwhelmed by the plan.

Pressure groups yesterday also claimed they will not get the resources they would need to implement new measures.

Increased spending is unlikely until the Government spending review is completed later in the year.

Roger Howard, chief executive of the Standing Conference on Drug Abuse, said the Government had estimated it would cost £40 million to implement fully the drug testing and treatment provisions contained in the Crime and Disorder Bill.

The programme is to be introduced with three pilot schemes, the first on Merseyside, backed by only an extra £1 million of public funds.

"The Government needs to give a clear signal at the launch of the national drugs strategy that it will go further than just allocating the £1 million needed to fund three pilot projects.

"The level of drug-related crime indicated by recent Home Office research and the success of drug treatment means we have to wonder whether £40 million is sufficient to meet the potential need. People going to already overburdened drug treatment services must not be displaced by those referred from the courts," said Mr Howard.

Ministers will also come under pressure today from local authority social services directors, who are pressing for the Government's drugs strategy to be extended to cover alcohol abuse.

New book debunks murdered Dublin crime journalist

Saintly crusader was liar who faked earlier shooting, respected editor alleges. **Rory Carroll** reports

A BOOK has accused Veronica Guerin, the murdered Irish reporter, of being a liar and forger who betrayed contacts and possibly faked a shooting to promote her image as a fearless investigator. Even more damning allegations were omitted because they were too unpalatable, said its author, journalist Emily O'Reilly.

The Guerin family has reacted by branding The Life and Death of a Crime Reporter as a hatchet job by a jealous rival.

To be published next week, the book has shocked Ireland by challenging the near-saintly image conferred on Ms Guerin after she was shot dead in June 1996. Disney is *reportedly negotiating film* rights with her husband, Graham Turley.

The book claims Ms Guerin forged documents to further her career, lied about her age and qualifications, took her infant son on dangerous assignments and rifled the private papers of Charles Haughey, the former prime minister.

The book also alleges some police officers believe Ms Guerin had herself shot in the leg to bolster her reputation for rattling the underworld.

It omits a claim, reported in the Dublin-based Magill magazine, that Ms Guerin tried to vote 26 times for Mr Haughey while she was an activist for his party, Fianna Fail. The magazine also claimed she tried to extract money from politicians by pretending her son was ill.

The charges have been angrily rejected by most members of the Guerin family and her employer, Independent Newspapers, owned by Tony O'Reilly (no relation to the author).

Before a gunman on a motorcycle shot her five times while waiting at traffic lights in a Dublin suburb, Ms Guerin specialised in revealing the wealth and activities of leading Dublin criminals.

A man has been charged with her murder. Another, John Gilligan, is in Belmarsh prison in south London, fighting extradition to Ireland on charges related to the murder.

Ms O'Reilly, one of Ireland's most famous journalists and political editor of the Sunday Business Post, said that sister titles of Ms Guerin's paper, the Sunday Independent, were helping to smear her and her book, published by Vintage.

"Despite the hysteria it's a very sober book, very thoughtful," said Ms O'Reilly. "It's not a hatchet job.

"Those that say so haven't read it, since it's not published yet."

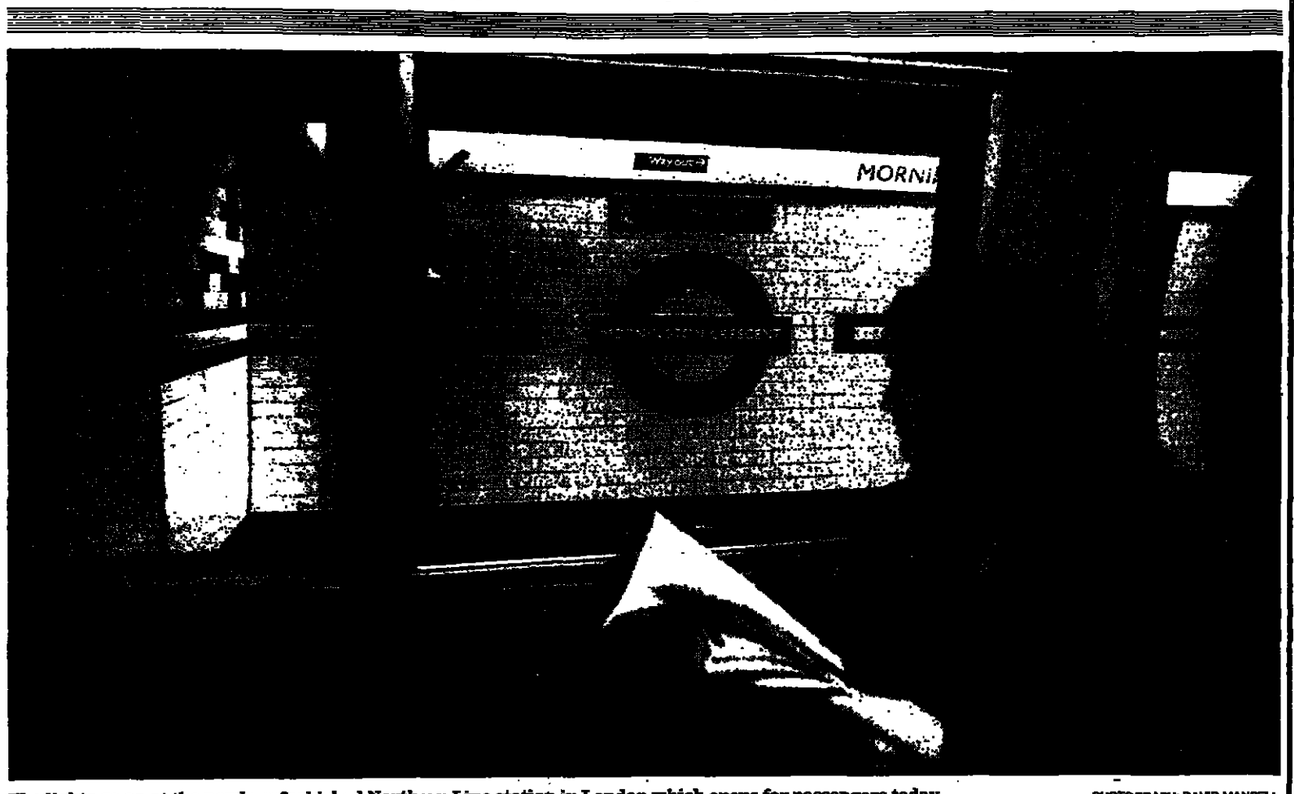
Ms O'Reilly alleged that Ms Guerin's newspaper shared responsibility for her death by not reining in her drive to obtain scoops whatever the risk.

"The Sunday Independent was seen as sleazy, voyeuristic and exploitative. Having Veronica gave them some moral authority. They don't want her reputation tarnished. It's in their interests to deflect attention away from their role. Veronica lacked normal controls and behaviour; it was someone else's job *to do it for her.*"

Willie Kealey, deputy editor of the Sunday Independent, said it had continually discussed Ms Guerin's safety, had insisted she accept police protection, had installed a security system in her home, and had offered her a different beat.

"The book seems to make Veronica out to be untruthful, unreliable and unstable," he said. "I knew her, she wasn't any of those things. Most of the anecdotes [in the book] are anonymous and unprovable."

He also rejected Ms O'Reilly's claim that the Independent group had campaigned to smear her. "Paranoid nonsense. We didn't all sit down and decide to have a go at her."



The lights go on at the newly refurbished Northern Line station in London which opens for passengers today PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID MANSELL

Tube station facelift sees light of day after delay of five years

IT WILL be the moment many Londoners thought they would never see in their lifetime, *writes Stuart Millar*. A little after midday today, a train will pull into Mornington Crescent tube station in north London and — for the first time in 5½ years — stop for passengers.

After one of the longest-running sagas in the history of the Underground, the Northern Line station, which was closed in 1992 for refurbishment but stayed shut, will today reopen for business.

After an elaborate ribbon-cutting ceremony by the presenters of the Radio 4's I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue — which made Mornington Crescent's plight the stuff of legend — passengers will be able to marvel at the restored tiling, the hi-tech lifts and the improved safety features that have set London Underground back £10 million.

But to the horror of local councillors and campaigners the Northern Line's management has decided that the station will close at 9pm every night.

The 88-year-old station was handling 7,000 passengers a day when it closed in October 1992, for an 18-month, £7 million refurbishment. The lifts were so old that when the original motor and switchgear were removed they were immediately claimed by the London Transport Museum as exhibits.

The work was stopped the following year by funding cuts, and it was three years before the decision was taken to press ahead with the refurbishment. Since then, its reopening has been announced and subsequently delayed on numerous occasions.



Crime reporter Veronica Guerin, shot dead in 1996

'The book seems to make Veronica out to be untruthful, unreliable and unstable. She wasn't any of those. Most of the anecdotes are anonymous and unprovable'

Willie Kealey, deputy editor of the Sunday Independent

Domestic violence hotline threatened

Lucy Patton

WOMEN and children's lives are at risk from the threatened closure *of Britain's only 24-hour do*mestic violence crisis line, claims the head of the charity which runs it.

Sandra Horley, chief executive of Refuge, said the line may have to close because of an unsuccessful bid to the National Lottery Charities Board.

The charity received a start-up lottery grant of £104,000 and was able to increase the number of phone lines from one to four, but with the news that there is no more lottery money, the crisis line — which receives no government funding — is back down to one line.

Ms Horley said: "If it is forced to close because of lack of funding, women and children at risk will suffer severe violence and in some cases the result could be fatal."

The crisis line links all the 200 women's refuges throughout the country, and without it the volunteers will not be able to help women to find a place in one of the refuges.

"The crisis line is a gateway to the refuges," said Ms Horley.

"Forty per cent of the women ringing us are in need of urgent refuge."

Helena Kennedy QC is *backing calls for the line* to stay open, and said: "Many women who contact Refuge are desperately worried about the safety of their children. Refuge runs a pioneering programme supporting children who have witnessed very violent incidents — one boy saw his father shoot his mother in the stomach, another watched his mother being raped by his father.

"Too many have seen their mothers beaten black and blue. By allowing the crisis line to close, we are turning our backs on these children."

Half of the women running the line are survivors of domestic violence and Refuge says one in nine women will be severely beaten by her male partner every year.

The crisis line was set up in 1971 when Refuge *established* the world's first women's refuge, in Chiswick, west London.

The crisis line now has 95 volunteers helping to keep the line open. Refuge has made two of its four office staff redundant because of lack of funds.

Ms Horley said: "If the crisis line closes down, where will the women go? They will have nowhere to turn to. We were asking for £597,000 in lottery funding, which is a drop in the ocean, but it would allow us to keep the lines open. We are talking about life and death issues here."

Ruby Wax, the television presenter, *has also* added her support to Refuge. She said: "The lottery is funding pigs and bereaved pet owners — surely all the battered women and the children Refuge helps are no less deserving?

"If Refuge's national crisis line closes, how will these women and children get help? Who will give them advice and support?"

The National Lottery Charities Board does not give reasons for its decisions not to award funds and Ms Horley said: "It leaves us in a terrible *position*, because we don't know why we didn't get the money so we don't know what to do if we reapply."

Refuge's crisis line: 0990 995 443. The Refuge donation line: 0171 395 7709

Diana's mother 'fears for fund'

Amelia Gentleman

THE mother of Diana, Princess of Wales, yesterday endorsed Earl Spencer's concerns about the *management of the Princess's* memorial fund.

Frances Shand Kydd said a letter sent by her son to the fund's chairman, calling on him to wind up the charity, was written with her support.

Family friction over the *handling of the Diana*, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund became public this weekend as it emerged that Lord Spencer had criticised the fund — over which his elder sister Lady Sarah McCorquodale presides — suggesting it was tasteless and degrading to Diana's memory.

In a letter to chairman Anthony Julius, Lord Spencer said trustees should hand out all the money collected and stop fund-raising.

Mrs Shand Kydd, aged 62, said: "The letter that my son *wrote to the trustees* of the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund in early April, was written on my behalf as well. It expressed concerns and asked questions."

But a senior trustee yesterday expressed surprise at the way that Lord Spencer had voiced *his concerns*, suggesting there had been a breakdown in communications between the Spencer siblings.

Fund spokeswoman, Vivienne Parry, said that trustees had found it strange that Lord Spencer had not spoken to his sister and that he had trusted newspaper reports about their intentions rather than asking the fund.

"We were very surprised to receive the letter. We thought that because Lady Sarah was on our fund, that would have been an obvious avenue of communication."

Lady Sarah is understood to believe the fund should not shut down when it is raising more than £1 million a week. *It has already collected* £14 million and expects to have £100 million by the end of the year.

She sees the memorial fund as crucial to preserving the princess's memory, while her brother has focused instead on *setting up a museum* in her honour.

The Earl's letter said: "The fund should collect money and distribute it, not indulge in commercialisation itself," and concluded: "The fund would be wise to set itself a date, preferably soon, by which time it seeks to donate the funds it has accumulated and wind up its operation."

Trustees announced on Saturday they were to hold a day-long seminar on the fund's future next month.

Ms Parry conceded that the *first few months had not gone* smoothly — admitting they had made a "horrible mistake" in permitting the princess's name to be attached to a margarine tub.

Responding to reports that Prince William was upset by the commercial exploitation of his mother, *and echoed* Lord Spencer's concerns about the fund, she revealed that trustees had wanted to involve him in key decisions.

"We asked whether it might be appropriate for him to be more actively involved. The answer was very clear — that *he is a school boy* and has other things to concentrate on. Nobody has communicated anything about the boys' wishes in this matter; it's extremely difficult."

France warned of 'scorpion's sting' in bank presidency row

Michael White
Political Editor

TONY Blair remains determined to force France to compromise with Germany in a diplomatic row over the presidency of the European Central Bank that threatens to disrupt the timetable for the single currency.

If neither Paris nor Bonn is willing to accept the proposal from Britain, as European Union president, that their rival candidates each take half the eight-year allotted term of the bank chief, then the "scorpion's sting" scenario will mean a third candidate will have to be found.

"If four years each is too much for the French to swallow, then we face the scorpion's sting, in which they kill each other's candidate," said a senior Whitehall source.

European leaders are due to meet in Brussels next weekend to confirm that 11 of the union's 15 member states will *be eligible to join the euro* when it comes into being on January 1.

But the stand-off over the German-sponsored Dutch candidate, Wim Duisenberg, head of the European Monetary Institute, and the French choice, Jean-Claude Trichet, *governor of the Bank of* France, threatens to overshadow the symbolic occasion being chaired by Mr Blair.

Whitehall wants both sides to accept that Mr Duisenberg will be appointed, but on the informal understanding he will see in the issue of notes and coins to ordinary consumers, around 2002, and then declare his mission complete. Mr Trichet would step into his shoes and French honour be satisfied.

Saudi lawyer says nurses to be freed soon

Clare Longrigg

TWO British nurses tried for murder may be free *from prison in Saudi Arabia* within a fortnight, their Saudi lawyer said yesterday.

Salah al-Hejailan, their Saudi lawyer, confirmed a report in the Sunday Telegraph that the nurses could be free in 10 to 14 days, adding: "They could be home sooner than that, as there is a very favourable consideration for their release."

The prediction follows a a plea for clemency made by the nurses' families to King Fahd, which the Saudi authorities indicated "would be treated sympathetically".

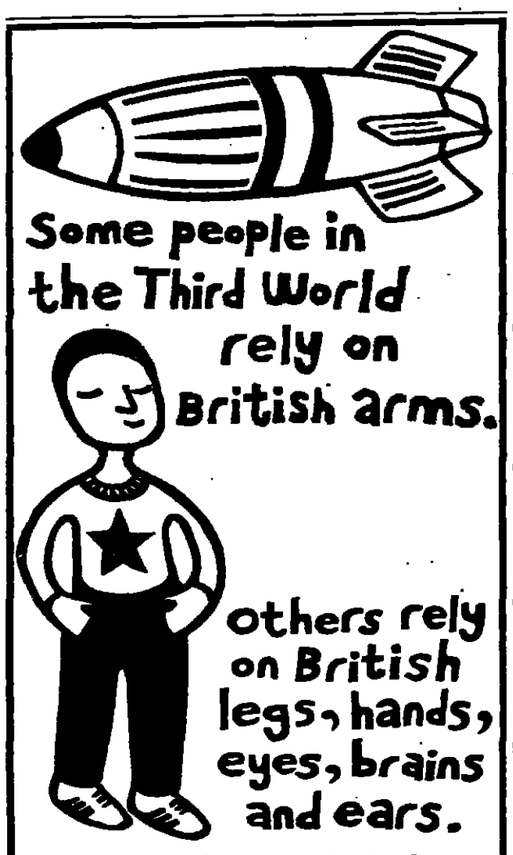
The two, Deborah Parry, aged 39, from Alton in Hampshire and Lucille McLaughlan, aged 32, from Dundee, were accused in December 1996 of murdering Yvonne Gilford, aged 55, an Australian nurse, who worked with them at at the King Fahd hospital complex.

In September McLauchlan was found guilty of being an accessory to murder and sentenced to eight years in jail and 500 lashes. Appeal judges ruled that the sentence was too severe, and she is awaiting a new sentence.

Mystery has surrounded the case. Although it is believed there has been a verdict in the case of Parry, it has never been announced. The nurses claim their confessions were forced.

The Prime Minister, Tony Blair, raised the women's case with Crown Prince Abdullah last week during his visit to the Middle East.

McLauchlan's father, Stan McLauchlan, yesterday said he had not heard anything about her release being forthcoming. The families of both women have made repeated trips to Saudi Arabia.

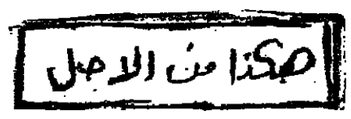


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Labour on a roll after a virtuoso first year — but the testing decisions still remain

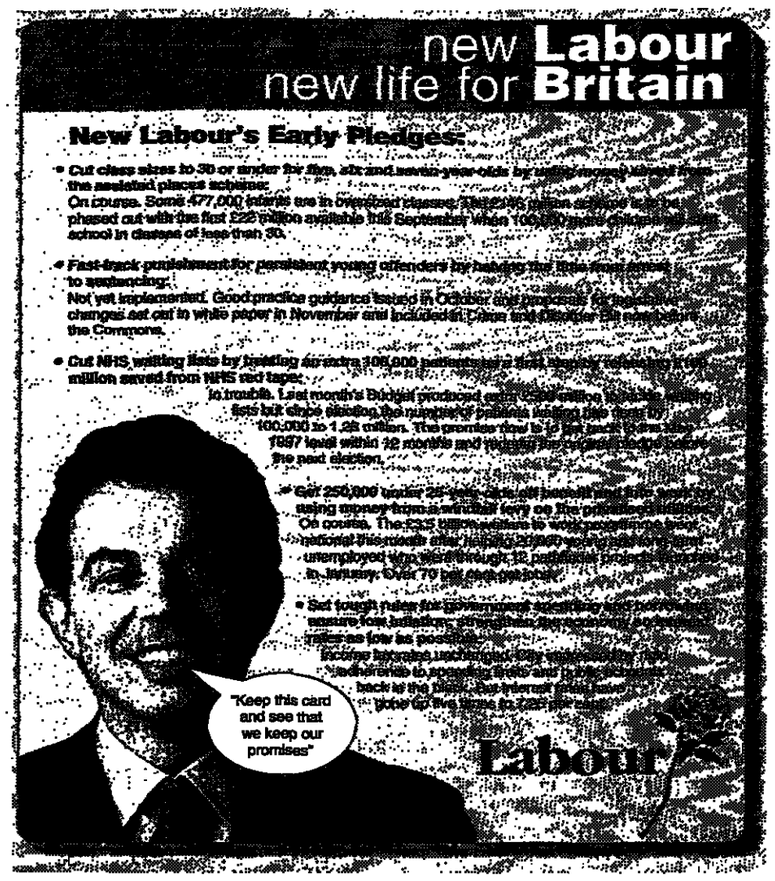


Tony Blair's government remains the most popular ever one year after its landslide victory at the polls. As the May 1 anniversary approaches Guardian writers assess Labour's performance in a series of articles. Today: Has the party lived up to its key manifesto pledges and how have ministers performed?



Labour supporters celebrating victory last May at the Festival Hall, in London, when the party stormed back to power for the first time since 1979

'The pledge to more openness means some ministries have let outsiders back into the corridors of power. For some campaign groups it is the first time in 20 years. It has removed some of the bile present in the public policy debates of the Tory years'



Alan Travis
Home Affairs Editor

EVEN the Conservatives say their initial fascination with the first year of New Labour politics has given way to admiration. They predict that disillusion will soon set in, but to judge by the opinion polls the public would give the Government an even bigger landslide majority if there were a general election tomorrow.

For an administration lacking any cabinet experience it was certainly a spectacular start, with the first 100 days exploding with breathtaking policy bombshells from Bank of England independence to the unexpected July Budget cash injections for schools and hospitals.

The height of the honeymoon was followed by a large number of smaller-scale decisions — from banning handguns to introducing a legal minimum three weeks' holiday a year to scrapping anti-family immigration rules — all of which brought a sense of humanity to the new Government. This feeling was underlined by the proclamation that Britain would in future follow "an ethical" foreign policy.

The first Queen's Speech was dominated by large, complex, constitutional bills such as devolution for Scotland and Wales, introducing a mayor and an assembly for London, and the incorporation of the European Convention on Human Rights. Its impact was blunted if only because these were such long-standing Labour commitments that they seemed like old familiars finally dropping by.

The lack of Conservative opposition to some of the larger measures, such as the Crime and Disorder Bill, added to the sense that this was a government which could do little wrong even if decisions such as pressing ahead with more private jails irritated left-wing critics.

The decision to stick to the Conservatives' public spending limits for the first two years also postponed any early damaging arguments over whether there should be radical changes in how to share out the Whitehall cake. But along with the Tory inheritance came some nasty surprises such as the lone parent benefit cuts and the ensuing damaging row.

A growing division began to appear between policies which had been agreed while Labour was in opposition and those which had to be thrashed out after it had taken office. In the priority area of education, the agreed phasing out of the assisted places schemes, the drive to raise literacy and numeracy standards, and the extra billions for schools and equipment have been impressive.

What has looked rather more flaky has been the "on the hoof" decisions such as the reaction to the Dearing Report on student tuition fees and the, at best, naïve dealings with sympathetic business people which led to the tobacco sponsorship fiasco.

This split is a pattern repeated around much of Whitehall. The welfare benefits debate became the principal case study in how not to conduct a policy review. The decision to implement the cut in lone parent benefit has been the only policy area in which the Government has admitted it got the policy and its presentation wrong.

The clash between Harriet Harman and Frank Field over the future of the welfare state became a disaster area. Tony Blair personally had to put it back on track and it has left a legacy of mistrust, particularly among disabled people. The hard decisions in this area have yet to be made.

"Government by review" began to dominate the second half of Labour's first year. By January there were already 87 official review groups and task forces to look at policy areas as diverse as tolls on the Skye bridge to the future of silicon breast implants. At one time "review culture" was proliferating at such a rate that Downing Street tried to call a halt to any more.

The reviews have changed the way policy is traditionally developed across Whitehall. The pledge to more "openness" means that some ministries have let outsiders back into the corridors of power. For some campaign groups it is the first time in 20 years. It has removed some of the bile present in the public policy debates of the Tory years.

Perhaps the key policy exercise is the Treasury's mammoth Comprehensive Spending Review which will determine plans for every Whitehall department until the next general election. Tony Blair says it will provide the "money for the modernisation of Britain".

Perhaps its most important aspect was made clear by Peter Mandelson at the launch of the Government's Social Exclusion Unit last summer. Labour was, he said, "determined to do more for those on the lowest incomes when economic circumstances and the reordering of public expenditure make this possible". We will see the colour of their money later this year. The details will determine whether this Government has a serious anti-poverty programme.

While task forces and review groups have toiled away at the detail of New Labour's celebrated "Third Way", the stage has not been left empty. The controversies over the botched birth of the Millennium Dome, Cool Britannia, the personal lives of ministers and the methods of the spin doctors have all rushed in to fill the vacuum.

There are harder decisions to take over the euro and over the future of the welfare state in the next 12 months.

The success in fashioning a Northern Irish peace settlement was undoubtedly the triumph of Tony Blair's first year, but the really testing decisions which will determine the shape of life under Labour have yet to come.

One year on, and Cabinet can scarcely believe its luck

Michael White surveys how ministers performed under the eye of their 'mega-star' leader, and who may face the chop



Flushed with success... The Labour Cabinet on taking office a year ago

OFFICIALLY the Downing St line is that there should be only modest celebrations while there is still so much to do. But most members of the Cabinet which meets this week on the eve of the Government's first birthday can scarcely scarcely believe their luck.

Was it a year ago that **Tony Blair** himself, now feted around the world, was being taunted as "Bambi", too young to hold Britain's highest elective office?

Not everything has gone right. Come the reshuffle there will be sackings. And on occasions the Labour media machine misfired; there has even been some Old Tory sleaze.

But not even the Asian meltdown or the soaraway pound could darken a year of economic sunshine for **Gordon Brown**.

Talk of Brown as *de facto* prime minister to President Blair is misconceived. Mr Blair is very much the boss. But Mr Brown undeniably has his sphere of influence, his "parallel empire", which may one day cause trouble.

What has already caused trouble is the Blair court — the "princes" as John Prescott called them in an interview yesterday. Mr Blair's press secretary, Alastair Campbell, and the Dome Secretary, Peter Mandelson, get more headlines than the average Cabinet member.

Mr Brown is a Cabinet star. So too is **Mo Mowlam**, the Northern Ireland Secretary, whose touchy-feely style, shrewder than it looks, has helped move mountains of prejudice.

Earnest **Jack Straw** may talk too much in Cabinet, but as Home Secretary he turned a domestic embarrassment — over his son William's drugs caper — into a political plus.

Colleagues agree that Old Labour holdover, **Frank Dobson**, has also proved an unlikely star at the Department of Health.

Mr Blair is the mega-star and his personal ascendancy is part of the Cabinet's luck, although it is far too early to judge his place in history beyond that record 177-seat Labour majority last May.

The century's youngest PM premier likes to deal bilaterally with colleagues, by phone or on his office sofa. But since the lone parent revolt in December (reluctant to interfere in the "parallel empire", Mr Blair shares with Mr Brown and Harriet Harman the blame for not defusing it in time), there have more genuinely open Cabinet discussions. "Tony makes a few opening remarks, but not in a leading fashion (unlike Thatcher), then opens it up for discussion before drawing conclusions or asking the relevant colleague to do so," one Cabinet member explains.

There is a middle tier of ministers who have done well enough to keep their heads when the reshuffle comes, though **Donald Dewar**, admired author of the devolution blueprint, is eager to be off home to lead his country as First Minister. Less missed, the Welsh Secretary, **Ron Davies**, will also go home to the Welsh Assembly. His hair's-breadth win was one of the Cabinet's luckier breaks.

Will **George Robertson**, Defence Secretary, get the Scottish portfolio back when Mr Dewar goes? Unlikely. Though middle-ranking ministers like Mr Robertson may fume at low-profile posts, **Ann Taylor**, leader of the Commons and modernising its procedures too cautiously for impatient new MPs, does not.

But there are worse fates than no publicity, as **Robin Cook's** year shows. The Foreign Secretary's private life drove his career off course, but newly-remarried his rehabilitation began last week.

Likewise **Lord Irvine**, the Lord Chancellor — but he is too important to Mr Blair personally to be dropped for his taste in wallpaper.

From the opposite direction, **John Prescott**, often seems outside the loop, getting on top of the hydra-headed problems of his mega-department. But the Blair camp is always careful to praise him. "Tony has come to trust John's judgment," says one insider.

At Education and Employment, **David Blunkett's** "standards-not-structures" mantra is very on-message. He and his team are judged a success, leftwingers who have made the transition into loyal modernisers.

Two veterans of the Callaghan years, **Margaret Beckett** (Trade and Industry) and **Jack Cunningham** (Agriculture), are routinely accused of being lazy. On beef, BSE, blind trusts and BP's Lord Simon, they have hit controversy but survived. What helps, say some, is an Old Labour sense of who-you-really-are; it is the bright young things who have a less sure touch.

Chris Smith at Culture and **Clare Short** at International Development had shaky starts but have settled down, and Mr Mandelson's suspected designs on Mr Smith's job have been deflected.

If current plans are enacted Mr Mandelson will instead enter Cabinet Office job as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, when the reshuffle comes in May or, more likely, July. Colleagues concede that is "a bit unfair" on Mr Clark, but politics is unfair — like nice **Gavin Strang** at Transport, also tipped the black spot.

But by general consent, **Harriet Harman** is "the wounded gazelle on the edge of the herd" and will be moved from Social Security, likely to go to Mr Brown's quietly diligent deputy, **Alastair Darling**.

But Ms Harman will survive. How about using the vacant salary (Dr Strang's?) to create a Cabinet Minister for Women?

At age 64 **Lord Richard**, leader of the Lords, is expendable, but not while Lords reform remains so hedged with problems.

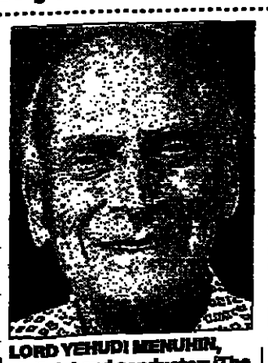
At this stage it is all tea-room gossip. But Mr Blair is unlikely to be an eager butcher and may shuffle the middle ranks more than the top. In that at least, he is like most tenants of No 10. In that run of good luck he is in a league of his own.

Tomorrow: Matthew Engel in Wimbledon, where one of the biggest swings brought a Labour victory in a true-blue constituency

And how was it for you?



LORD HEALEY, former Chancellor: "Enormous relief to the whole country. They were fed up to the teeth with the Conservatives. It was time for a change and what a change it has been. Tony has shown immense competence and great charm. He is clearly planning for a second term."



LORD YEHUDI MENUHIN, violinist and conductor: "The first year of our new government has been almost unblemished. However, I take issue with the Labour Party on hereditary peerage. I strongly believe the House of Lords must remain a chamber consisting not of the elected but the appointed."



SIR BERNARD INGHAM, former chief press secretary to Baroness Thatcher: "It looks better than it is, but looking worse all the time. Their method of media relations — which the Mafia would recognise — is one of "you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours". They have had a wonderful ride with the media but I don't believe it can last. They are all presentation with very little substance.'



SIR RANULPH FIENNES, explorer and farmer: 'From the point of view of a farmer I consider Jack Cunningham to be the devil incarnate. But in most other areas I think they are showing a lot of promise, in particular Blair, Straw and Brown."



RICHARD BRANSON, Virgin Group chairman: 'Peace in Northern Ireland would be enough for any prime minister to achieve in his lifetime. As it is, that seems possible within a year of Tony Blair taking office. We also have a Britain that is as buoyant and vibrant as it has ever been. It has been a wonderful start.'



SIR PETER HALL, theatre director: 'Marvellous in the international field and constitutional matters, but a bitter, bitter disappointment as far as culture and the arts go. It certainly hasn't been the celebration of creativity that Tony Blair promised us. I fear for the soul of the country.'

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The Guardian Monday April 27 1998

Highway protests, political tussles, public gloom and lethargy set tone as 50th anniversary celebrations climax

Rows give Israel pre-jubilee blues

David Sharrock in Jerusalem

ISRAELIS began a week of celebrations yesterday marking the 50th anniversary of the foundation of their state by burning tyres, trying to block the main road to Jerusalem, complaining that peace groups and women are being sidelined and expressing fears about the fate of the Middle East peace process.

The prevailing mood has more in common with a hangover than a party. The widely-held view that Israel is in no mood to celebrate was evident in a random vox pop conducted on Ben Yehuda Street, Jerusalem's busiest thoroughfare: most people planned to ignore state-organised events, which culminate on Wednesday night and Thursday.

"I can't wait until it's all over and we can forget the whole thing," said Shulamit, aged 30, a secretary. The negative public reaction has nothing to do with lack of patriotism but seems to come from a hardening sense of impending disaster.

'I can't wait until it's all over and we can forget the whole thing,' said Shulamit, a secretary

The presence of President Clinton's Middle East envoys — and later in the week his vice-president, Al Gore — is casting more shadow than sunlight over the proceedings, with the Hebrew media concluding that it is decision time for the prime minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, about the extent of an Israeli troop withdrawal from the occupied West Bank.

Police arrested 10 demonstrators as hundreds attempted to close the main road connecting Israel's two most important cities, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. The protest was by people from suburban communities objecting to proposals that Jerusalem annexe towns to its west, to create a super-municipality.

The town of Mevasseret, five miles north-west of Jerusalem, announced it was cancelling its Independence Day celebrations and would boycott the national jubilee. "They can't take away our independence and then expect us to celebrate," Mevasseret's council leader, Eli Moiyal, said.

Israel claims Jerusalem, in its entirety, as its capital, while the Palestinians want the eastern sector as capital of their future state.

Some Israelis have called for a westward municipal expansion to boost Jerusalem's Jewish population — more than a quarter of the city's residents are Palestinians — especially that of secular Jews, offsetting the rapid growth in the city's ultra-Orthodox population.

But many of the protesters, who lit tyre bonfires and disrupted rush-hour traffic, claim they live outside Jerusalem precisely to escape such religious divides. The controversial annexation plan is due to go before parliament this week.

Women's and peace groups have already registered their disaffection with the official ceremonies, accusing the jubilee committee's director, Doron Shmueli, of hijacking the anniversary for ideological reasons.

Critics note that the lavish stage production on Thursday reviewing the state's key moments will not show the 1993 White House handshake between the late Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Rabin, and the Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat. The handshake has also been left out of television trailers.

Mr Shmueli acknowledged that this was no oversight. "I personally will not allow Arafat to be in any way connected with the jubilee celebrations," he told the daily newspaper Ha'aretz.

Images of Rabin, including the last moments before his assassination in November 1995 by an ultra-nationalist Jew, were added to the historical review only belatedly, in response to a public outcry, said Shay Narkus, a lawyer for the Dor Shalom peace group founded by the murdered premier's son, Yuval.

'I personally will not allow Arafat to be in any way connected with the jubilee celebrations'

Mr Shmueli also drew criticism earlier this month when he threw a £94,000 jubilee party for 450 Jewish settlers in the overwhelmingly Palestinian West Bank city of Hebron. Peace groups' events have been denied funding on the grounds of lack of money. Yesterday, after a Supreme Court ruling harshly criticised the jubilee committee's selection of events for funding, a deal was nearly cobbled together to assist a combined Independence day celebration by peace movements.

It broke down over a stipulation that the event should have "a national character and not [a] political" one, and should focus "on the positive and not the negative". The peace movements then threatened to turn up instead at Har Homa, the controversial Jewish housing development on an east Jerusalem hillside called Jabel Abu-Gneim, where rightwing activists plan their own "ceremony" on Thursday.

Israel's largest women's group, Na'amat, complained that another jubilee advertisement which is meant to represent a spectrum of Israeli youth shows a native-born Jewish boy, an Ethiopian and a Russian — but no girls.

The reason given by the jubilee office was that pictures of girls might offend the ultra-Orthodox community, whose support is crucial to Mr Netanyahu's government.

The prime minister's senior adviser, David Bar-Illan, said the jubilee's intention was "to treat history as fairly as possible. I'm not quite sure that in discussing Israel's achievements, there is a need to include Yasser Arafat."

News in brief

Afghan foes begin formal peace talks

AFGHANISTAN'S Taliban movement and its opponents have begun their first formal peace talks for more than a year, after the international community stepped up pressure for an end to almost 20 years of civil war.

The UN-sponsored talks got under way in the Pakistani capital, Islamabad, despite clashes near Kabul in which more than 50 troops were reported wounded. The Taliban and the Northern Alliance accused each other of launching the offensive.

A UN official, James Ngobi, said the atmosphere of the talks was good and that both sides would be appealing to their leaders not to launch new military offensives. The factions have until the end of the week to prepare the ground for more substantive negotiations — *Richard Galpin, Islamabad.*

Ruling party leads Nigeria poll

THE ruling United Nigeria Congress Party (UNCP) took an early lead in national assembly elections at the weekend, according to provisional results announced by state radio.

It said the UNCP won nine out of the first 12 senatorial seats to be declared by the electoral commission. Two other parties, the Democratic Party of Nigeria and the Congress for National Consensus, had won a seat each in the new 109-member senate.

The UNCP was the first party to adopt military leader General Sani Abacha as its presidential candidate. His eventual adoption by all five parties for the August 1 presidential polls led to an opposition boycott of Saturday's elections. — *Reuters, Lagos.*

Lebed set for election run-off

THE career of one of Russia's most forceful political personalities, the former paratroop general Alexander Lebed, hung in the balance yesterday after he appeared to have narrowly forced a second round run-off in a Siberian election seen as a dress rehearsal for the presidential race in 2000.

Early results showed Mr Lebed trailing the incumbent Valery Zyubov by 37 per cent to 46 for the governorship of Krasnoyarsk Territory, a vast strip of the northern hemisphere which produces much of Russia's raw materials wealth.

Mr Zyubov needed 50 per cent to win outright. If Gen Lebed, who helped Boris Yeltsin to victory in 1996, wins the run-off in two weeks' time, he will be well-placed to use Siberia to launch his campaign for the Kremlin. If he loses, it could be the death of his mission to become Russia's saviour. — *James Meek, Moscow.*

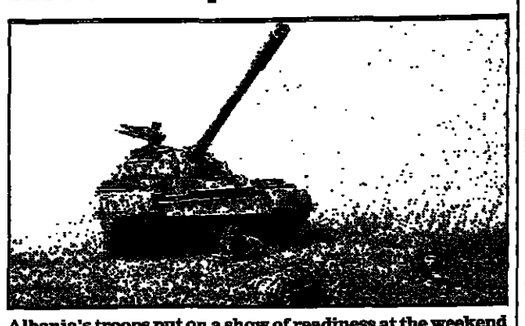
Cycle of crime

THE wife of Italy's cycle-mad prime minister, Romano Prodi, has had her bicycle stolen. Flavia Prodi's bicycle was taken from a rack in the couple's home town of Bologna earlier this month.

"I'd had it a long time and I'd grown very fond of it," Mrs Prodi told Corriere della Sera newspaper. "It's the sixth one I've had stolen in 30 years but a bike is so useful I'm not giving up. I've bought myself a new one. It has gears to help me on the hills."

Mr Prodi has promised himself a new racing bicycle to celebrate Italy's qualification for the first wave of European monetary union, which is expected to be rubber-stamped by the European Union at the weekend. — *Reuters, Bologna.*

Kosovo 'explosives seized'



Albania's troops put on a show of readiness at the weekend near the capital, Tirana. They are being kept on alert due to continuing skirmishes along the border with Serbia's southern province of Kosovo, where the Serbian army yesterday said it ambushed about 10 "terrorists" trying to infiltrate the province from Albania.
The Serbs accused the group of trying to smuggle 20 cases of landmines, explosives, and other military equipment into Kosovo, whose ethnic Albanian majority wants independence from Serbia. —*Reuters*

Police fire on student protest

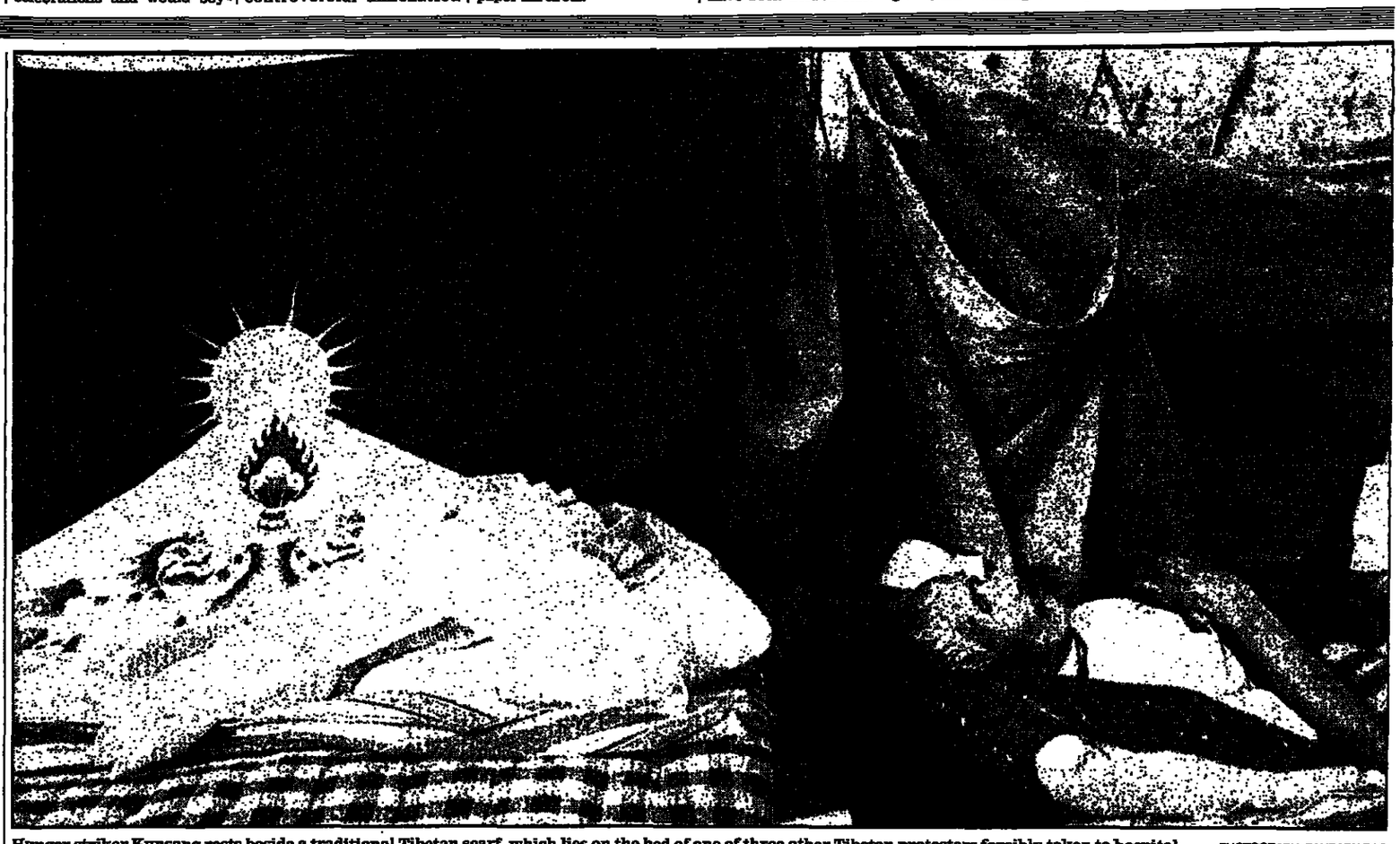
INDONESIAN police fired rubber bullets at students who had pelted them with Molotov cocktails during protests demanding President Suharto's resignation in the north Sumatra city of Medan at the weekend, witnesses said.

At least four students were shot in Saturday's clashes, where students also claimed police abducted five students. What began as a peaceful protest against Indonesia's economic crisis has turned into an increasingly violent nationwide movement with tens of thousands protesting daily. — *John Aglionby, Jakarta.*

Greedy monk steals eggs

A BUDDHIST monk in eastern Thailand stole the eggs of two snakes, claiming he could divine winning lottery numbers from them, but police made him take them back, police said yesterday.

News that two boa constrictors were hatching their eggs in Wangnamyen district of Sakhaew province last week drew hundreds of people. — *Reuters, Bangkok.*



Hunger striker Kunsang rests beside a traditional Tibetan scarf, which lies on the bed of one of three other Tibetan protesters forcibly taken to hospital PHOTOGRAPH: SAURABH DAS

India breaks up Tibetan hunger strike

Suzanne Goldenberg in New Delhi

IN AN attempt to spare the feelings of China's visiting military chief, Indian police yesterday carried out a midnight raid on a tented camp where Tibetan protesters have vowed to fast to death, dragging three to hospital for force feeding.

In their gauze tent, the remaining three today begin their 49th day on a diet of water and lime juice, their bodies giving off the stench of starvation and their speech confined to whispers.

The hunger strike has been deeply embarrassing for New Delhi, the United Nations, and the Dalai Lama. The suicidal fast betrays the Buddhist principle of non-violence.

Yesterday, at their camp near the Jantar Mantar observatory in the heart of the capital, the hunger strikers appeared oblivious to their supporters' protests.

"Tibet is occupied by China. Everything else we tried has failed. I am old now and I cannot hope to die in Tibet, so what else could I do," said Kunsang, a labourer, aged 70, who is the oldest of the protesters.

The hunger strikers want the UN General Assembly to resume a debate on Tibet, appoint a special rapporteur on human rights abuses, and oversee a referendum on independence.

Their supporters were bitter yesterday, accusing India of bowing to behind-the-scenes pressure from China, and the local police of forcing the three men — who government doctors say were near death — into the ambulances that took them to hospital.

"They dragged them like animals; they threw them into the van," said Dechen Tsomo, who confounded local constables by threatening to stab herself. New Delhi police deny using force and say they were compelled to act because suicide is illegal.

Ms Tsomo, who was born during her parents' escape across the Himalayas in 1959, left her job in Kathmandu to minister to the protesters. "Many people are dying in Tibet. It is an urgent time," she said. "We Tibetans don't know how to make weapons, we don't know how to fight, we only know how to beat drums in the temple."

The protesters, who belong to the Tibetan Youth Congress, claim the Indian police acted because of the arrival last night of the Chinese military chief of staff, Fu Quan. The general's visit is the first of its kind and a milestone in attempts by Beijing and New Delhi to normalise relations.

Unlike the Dalai Lama, who eschews violence and is seeking autonomy from China, the congress advocates outright independence. Its prominence highlights growing impatience among younger Tibetans with the Dalai Lama's failed efforts to negotiate with the Chinese, and their elders' despair of returning to the homeland they fled in 1959.

The Dalai Lama visited but did not have the heart to ask protesters to end their fast. 'I am in a great dilemma,' he said

The Dalai Lama has been unable to influence the hunger strike. "I am in a great dilemma," he said after visiting the camp. Although Buddhism prohibits violence — even against one's own person — he did not have the heart to ask the six to stop. "I don't know what to do. This is very sad, but it is difficult for me to protest against this."

The protest also highlights New Delhi's ambivalence towards Tibet. India has provided a haven for 130,000 Tibetans who followed the Dalai Lama across the Himalayas, or who were born in exile, but it prohibits political action on its soil.

Several high-profile visitors have called at the camp, including diplomats and Hollywood's most committed campaigner for Tibet, Richard Gere. But Indian officials have stayed away, and the defence minister, George Fernandes, normally an outspoken sympathiser, has retreated into silence.

Gen Fu is expected to discuss confidence-building measures with Indian politicians and generals. New Delhi is expected to express its disquiet at reports that Chinese forces have built a helicopter pad on the remote mountain plateau of Arunachal Pradesh, and its concerns about Beijing's missile and nuclear co-operation with Pakistan.

Prisoner of war 'returns from the dead'

Julian Borger on an Iranian pilot who was captured in the 1980-88 conflict with Iraq and has only just been allowed home

EIGHTEEN years after his jet fighter disappeared over Iraq, Hossein Lashkari has returned from the dead. Iraq had kept his existence a secret and his comrades had given him up as lost. But the Iranian pilot survived torture and more than a decade in solitary confinement to emerge as a reminder of one of this century's most brutal wars.

His release this month, 10 years after the Iran-Iraq conflict ended, was part of a prisoner exchange motivated by both countries' need to emerge from regional isolation. In recent weeks Iran has freed more than 5,000 Iraqis. In return Saddam Hussein, who long claimed to hold no Iranian prisoners of war, produced Flight Lieutenant Lashkari and 318 other Iranian POWs.

In an interview at a Tehran air-force base, the pilot, aged 45 and promoted to the rank of general since his release, said he had been subjected to physical and mental torture and kept in isolation for 10 years in a string of Baghdad villas converted into dungeons. He was the ace up President Saddam's sleeve, a hostage to be used only when necessary.

In 1980, soon after the Iran-Iraq war began, his F4 fighter caught fire during a sortie and he ejected. "I'm not sure if I was hit or what caused the fire. I was flying low and the parachute opened not long before I hit the ground, so I came down hard and passed out. When I came to, Iraqi doctors were stitching up my mouth," Gen Lashkari said.

The Iraqis removed his bed and forced the wounded pilot to stand during interrogations. After 48 hours he was taken to Iraqi intelligence headquarters in Baghdad and the professionals got to work on him.

"They attached metal brushes to sensitive parts of my anatomy and gave me electric shocks. They beat the soles of my feet — 100 or 120 strokes until I passed out.

"And then there was psychological torture as well. They would come to my cell 30 or 40 times a night, just to ask me my name and number. They also blindfolded me and tied me up and drove me out of Baghdad at night. They took me off the road and fired into the air above my head."

He was asked for information his interrogators could have found in the international press. He now believes his torturers were more interested in testing their techniques and assessing his resistance and training. Released Iraqi prisoners have also alleged maltreatment and torture in captivity in Iran.

A million soldiers are thought to have died in the inconclusive eight-year war. After the 1988 ceasefire, mutual distrust remained intense. About 70,000 prisoners were sent home in 1990 but many more were held back as bargaining counters. Talks are under way to exchange the last POWs, but no one seems sure how many there are.

After the war ended, Gen Lashkari's conditions worsened. After eight years sharing a cell with other Iranians, he was moved on his own to a series of houses in Baghdad.

"From the outside these places looked like expensive villas. Inside there were manacles and bars on the windows," Gen Lashkari said.

'These places looked like villas. But there were manacles and bars on the windows'

He spent the next 10 years in solitary, exchanging the odd word with Iraqi guards. As the years went by, he overheard only fragments of news — about the death of Ayatollah Khomeini and the collapse of the Soviet Union. During the Gulf war he could hear the bombs falling. The Iraqis told the Red Cross of his existence only in 1996.

Gen Lashkari says he owes his sanity to his Islamic faith and to the order he imposed on his life.

"I allotted every task a certain time so that I ended up feeling I needed an extra two hours in every 24," he said.

This feat of self-discipline has left the grey-bearded pilot withdrawn and deadpan. When he first telephoned his wife, Havva, from a hotel on the border, he greeted her formally. "Do you recognise my voice?" he asked. Havva broke down in tears.

The family was reunited three weeks ago in front of a scrum of dignitaries, well-wishers and television cameras. When Hossein and Havva finally found each other, they shook hands and exchanged formal pleasantries. As he embraced his son Ali (whom he had last seen as a three-month-old infant), his first words to the young man were: "Why are you wearing glasses?" He admitted later: "It was all I could think of saying."

As Iran's longest-serving POW, Gen Lashkari has been proclaimed its foremost national hero. He has been filmed at national shrines and listening intently to the ayatollahs. Havva has been declared an Exemplary Wife. Their home life has been subjected to relentless media scrutiny.

When the young flight lieutenant last saw Iran in 1980, the revolution was only a few months old. It is now riven with disputes and riddled with corruption. As is to be expected, every faction has attempted to identify itself with the airman.

"Little wonder," said one embittered war veteran watching the pilot-hero eulogised for the umpteenth time on television. "He is everything the revolution was supposed to be and so obviously has not become."

صكذا من الاصل

صكذا من الاصل

German neo-nazis grab votes in east

Ian Traynor in Bonn

GERMANY'S racist rightwing People's Union stunned Bonn last night by coming from nowhere to take almost 13 per cent of the vote in the eastern state of Saxony-Anhalt in an election that struck a strong blow against Helmut Kohl.

The opposition Social Democrats of Gerhard Schröder were boosted in their campaign to unseat Mr Kohl, running for a record fifth term as German chancellor in September's general election, by emerging as the clear winner with 37 per cent according to early projections, 15 points ahead of Mr Kohl's Christian Democrats.

But Mr Schröder's SPD won considerably fewer votes than suggested by the opinion polls, while the neo-nazi gains corresponded roughly with the Christian Democrat losses. The Greens, part of the outgoing government, failed to surmount the 5 per cent barrier for entry to the parliament, as did the liberal Free Democrats, in government in Bonn.

The state election, seen as a strong pointer to the national poll in five months, could trigger a fresh bout of infighting within the Bonn government over Mr Kohl's candidacy. The chancellor sought to defuse any such talk on the eve of the election by stating that "the election result is one thing, the general election is something else".

But the grumbling over Mr Kohl's leadership continued last night. "This is a heavy defeat for the Christian Democrats," conceded Jürgen Scharf, the CDU parliamentary leader in the state capital of Magdeburg. "It gives us all a lot to think about."

The SPD prime minister of the state, Reinhard Höppner, hailed the "very clear margin" of victory and blamed Mr Kohl for the extreme right's unexpected triumph. "This is a loss of landslide proportions for the Christian Democrats. Kohl has clearly lost," he said.

The 12.6 per cent won by the neo-nazi German People's Union (DVU), Mr Höppner added, represented a "protest potential" caused by disillusion with Mr Kohl.

The CDU won 39 per cent of the vote in Saxony-Anhalt in 1990, 34.4 per cent in 1994, and about 22 per cent last night, according to the projections.

The DVU's success sent shock waves through the mainstream body politic. Run by a neo-nazi millionaire Munich publisher, Gerhard Frey, the DVU was contesting its first election in the state. Its 12.6 per cent suggested the potential support for the racist right in the east. East German politicians blamed the surprise on Mr Kohl's policies in the east.

The DVU mounted a late but generously funded campaign in the state which has the highest unemployment and the lowest economic growth of Germany's 16 states.

According to initial analysis, the DVU won support among the unemployed and young.

Alarmed at the prospect of the DVU entering the Magdeburg parliament on its anti-euro, foreigner-bashing, "jobs for Germans" ticket, Mr Kohl last week pandered to the xenophobia rampant in the east.

"We are friendly to foreigners in our country. But they have to know that they are guests in our country. And if they don't want to be a guest, they can just get out," Mr Kohl told a rally in Magdeburg.

The same day the latest figures on racist violence recorded a 25 per cent increase country-wide last year, while extreme right offences soared 34 per cent to 11,720.

"A lot of the young people are voting for the far right because although half of the foreigners are okay, the other half are criminals," said a retired Social Democrat supporter.

Buoyed by the strong lead held by Mr Schröder over Mr Kohl, the Social Democrats were delighted by the 15-point advantage over the CDU. In the last state elections in 1994, the Christian Democrats narrowly defeated the Social Democrats who nonetheless formed the government in coalition with the Greens.

The SPD vote, however, was a mere 3 per cent up on 1994 and the party had been tipped to do much better.

Last night it appeared that the Social Democrats would be left four seats short of an absolute majority in the 99-seat state parliament.

Last night's outcome supported the contention that Mr Kohl, who won his two last elections on the back of widespread support in eastern Germany, was on his way to losing the east.

In another election yesterday, for the mayor of Leipzig, the east's second city, the CDU candidate did not even make it to the run-off. The candidate came in third with 20 per cent two weeks ago.

In the neighbouring state of Brandenburg, the CDU is polling a wretched 15 per cent. In its capital, Potsdam, the party is in single figures.

"It will be very hard to win [in September]. All over the east, our message is not getting across to the voters," admitted Jürgen Witkowski, a Magdeburg CDU official.

Xenophobic campaign bears fruit

THE election posters plastered over Magdeburg last week screamed "Foreign criminals out" and "German money for German jobs", as the extreme right German People's Union (DVU) launched its campaign to tap the xenophobia caused by mass unemployment across Saxony-Anhalt, *writes Ian Traynor.*

As a result of a campaign costing more than those of the big parties, the millionaire rightwing publisher and DVU chief, Gerhard Frey, surpassed his wildest hopes last night.

Opinion polls had suggested the DVU might scrape into the state parliament with just over the 5 per cent necessary. But they were wide of the mark. Mr Frey's party took a projected 12.6 per cent share of the vote, benefiting from widespread disenchantment with Helmut Kohl's government.

Mr Frey, a Munich publisher who has made millions from disseminating extreme rightwing material, is a chum of other extreme nationalists, from Vladimir Zhirinovsky in Russia to Jean-Marie Le Pen in France.

The 12 seats he gained in the 99-seat state parliament were the first seats for the extreme right in an east German parliament since unification in 1990. Last year the DVU just missed entering the Hamburg parliament while, in the early 1990s, it made it briefly into the Schleswig-Holstein and Bremen parliaments. All three assemblies are in western Germany.

Outsider's surprise win splits Spain's socialists

Adela Gooch in Madrid

SPAIN'S socialists are struggling to heal divisions after a populist lone wolf challenger dethroned the party leader in primaries held to choose their candidate to be prime minister at the next general election.

Josep Borrell, aged 51, a baker's son from Catalonia with a sharp tongue and even sharper mind, defeated the favourite, Joaquín Almunia, aged 49, a sober Basque lawyer who has led the party since June.

The victory of Mr Borrell, who attracted 55 per tent of the votes and won by 10 percentage points, shocked socialist leaders who had followed the dictates of the former prime minister, Felipe González, and thrown their weight behind Mr Almunia.

Mr Almunia took over last summer after Mr González, who was prime minister for 13 years to 1986 and party leader for 23, resigned suddenly. But his reassuring, undogmatic style failed to inspire and move him out of Mr González's shadow.

It was Mr Almunia who decided to introduce the primary system — the first time it has operated in Spain — to try to consolidate his leadership and quash suggestions that he might be holding the fort for a González comeback.

The measure backfired. Ordinary socialists warmed to Mr Borrell's message that it was time to move on from the González era, which ended in a quagmire of political and financial corruption that cost them the last election.

To the strains of the Tina Turner song Simply the Best, Mr Borrell, a natty dresser with a strong belief in his own abilities, toured the country while fighting the party machine's attempt to obstruct him.

After his victory was announced on Friday, he tried to avert a split by urging his opponent to stay on as party secretary-general. Mr Almunia resigned the next day but was persuaded to stay on at least until next month.

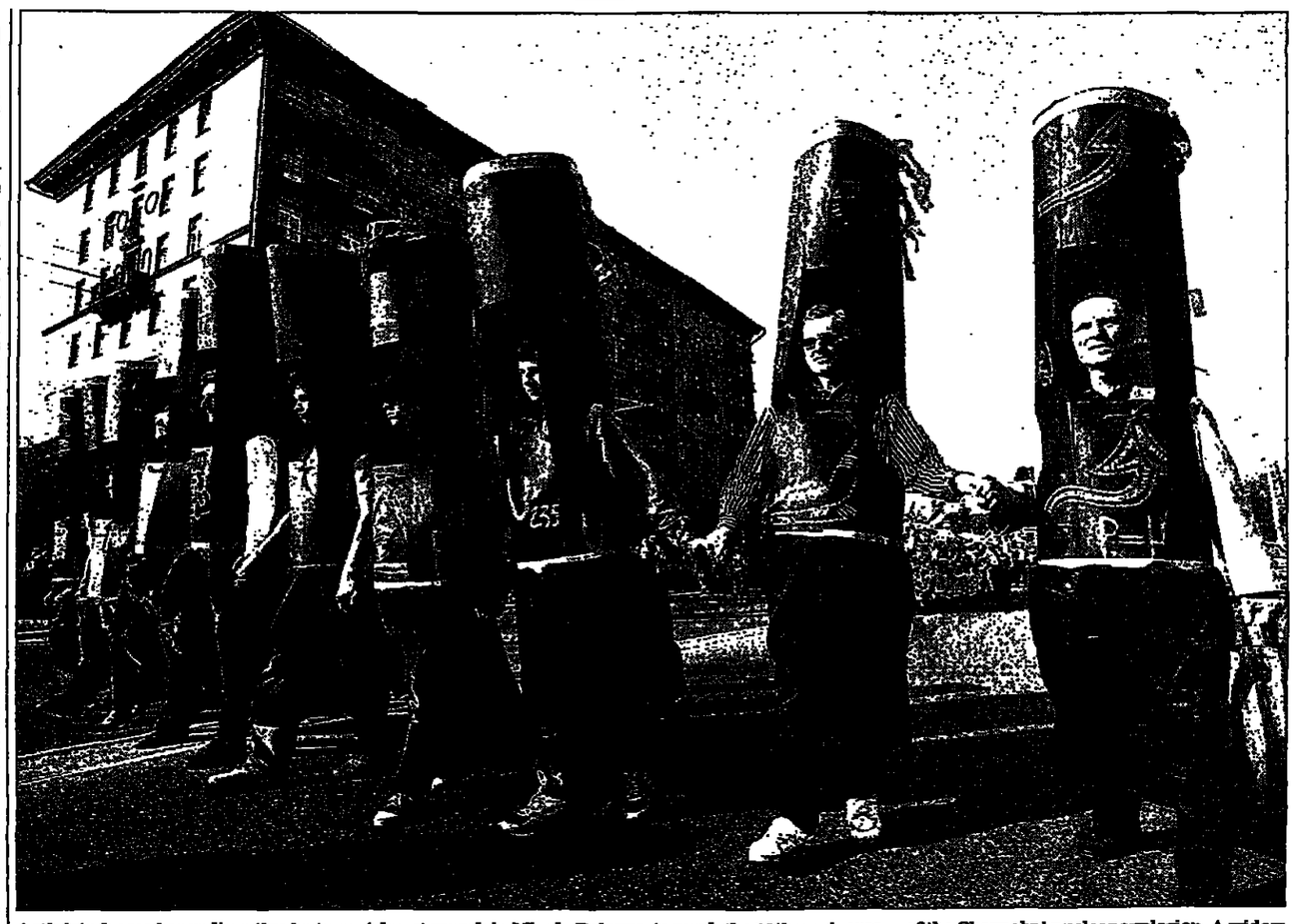
Political analysts agreed Mr Borrell's victory might lead to a period of confusion and blood-letting. But they thought the public had viewed the primary system as a democratic move, and this had given the socialists a fresh lease of life.

Mr Borrell could become a spirited leader who might pose a formidable challenge to the sober conservative prime minister, José María Aznar. A snap poll published in the daily El País yesterday put Mr Borrell 10 percentage points ahead of Mr Aznar.

Mr Borrell, a scholarship boy from a small village in Catalonia who went on to acquire a degree in engineering, a doctorate in economics and a master's from Stamford University in the United States, describes himself as being "in the centre of the left". Although he served under Mr González as a junior finance minister and then as minister for public works, he was never close to the former prime minister.

Mr Borrell's spark of ideological passion has led to suggestions he may shift the party to the left. Mr Borrell stresses his commitment to social democracy, arguing: "I am not a dangerous leftwinger."

On policy, the Spanish press has compared Mr Borrell to the French prime minister, Lionel Jospin, while likening Mr Almunia to Tony Blair. Both Spanish politicians have rejected the links, arguing Spanish socialism has its own traditions. The Spanish left has usually taken its lead from France and shown a residual anti-Americanism. Yet Mr Blair has made a strong impression in Spain and Mr Borrell will want to emulate his image as the dynamic, updated face of socialism.



Activists dressed as radioactive isotopes (above) march in Minsk, Belarus, to mark the 12th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear explosion. A widow (below) visits a monument in Kiev listing the names of workers who died as they tried to contain the disaster PHOTOGRAPHS: SERGEI GRITS, SERGEI SUPINSKY

Clinton and accuser pass like ships in the night

Martin Kettle in Washington

PAULA Jones and Bill Clinton were together in the same room again on Saturday night. But this time there was no dispute about what happened at the 84th White House Correspondents Association Dinner at the Washington Hilton.

The United States president and Ms Jones, who accuses him of sexual harassment, ignored each other, and 2,600 witnesses and several television crews were on hand to prove it.

Less than two weeks after Ms Jones's lawyers said she would refrain from anti-Clinton publicity stunts and focus instead on the legal aspects of her charges against him, she turned in a vintage performance for the media.

Ms Jones, who said recently that she could not bear to watch Mr Clinton on television because it upset her too much, arrived at the hotel in a limousine and smiled for photographers.

Ms Jones was a guest of Insight magazine, a right-wing publication owned by the Reverend Sun Myung Moon. Arriving with her husband Stephen and her minder, Susan Carpenter McMillan, she was booed by other guests before being escorted by bodyguards to a table in the recesses of the ballroom.

Bob Schieffer, a veteran political commentator for CBS television, said Ms Jones's appearance at the dinner "set a new standard in incredible bad taste".

As guest of honour, Mr Clinton upheld tradition by mocking the media.

"This is the night I get to poke fun at you. This is my definition of 'executive privilege'," he said. He added that he had barely read the newspapers since the Pope's visit to Cuba in January — which was upstaged by the scandal surrounding the president's alleged relationship with White House intern Monica Lewinsky. "What have you been writing about since then?" he asked.

Film stars Sharon Stone, Michael Douglas, Annette Bening, Warren Beatty and Richard Dreyfuss were among the celebrities who hobnobbed with politicians and media figures.

Ms Lewinsky had several invitations to the annual dinner, but turned them all down. Her lawyer William Ginsburg said: "It would be tasteless for us to attend."

Hillary Clinton arrived after giving a further five hours of videotaped testimony to the independent prosecutor, Kenneth Starr, about her role in the Whitewater land deal. It was the First Lady's sixth interrogation by Mr Starr's team since 1994.

In a separate development, a former Miss America who says she had a one-night stand with Mr Clinton in 1983, when he was governor of Arkansas, has apologised to the president's wife.

Elizabeth Ward Gracen told NBC television: "What I did was wrong, and I feel very, very bad about it now. My behaviour was inappropriate."

Ms Gracen, who is trying to avoid being served with a subpoena by Mr Starr, said the sex was consensual.



Bill Clinton and Paula Jones ignored each other at the annual White House correspondents' dinner. Ms Jones said recently it upset her even to see the president — whom she accuses of sexual harassment — on television

Few turn out to honour victims of Chernobyl

Chris Bird in Slavutich

ONLY about 200 Ukrainians turned up early yesterday morning to light candles in remembrance of those killed when the Chernobyl nuclear power station exploded 12 years ago.

A priest led them in prayers for those who died from huge doses of radiation after Chernobyl's fourth reactor blew up on April 26, 1986.

Ukraine's health ministry says more than 3,500 people died after the disaster but other organisations say the figure is higher.

Slavutich, a dormitory town built north of Kiev to house Chernobyl workers who had to abandon their homes because of radioactive contamination, was hushed apart from the mourners.

The explosion released a radioactive cloud that poisoned 40,000 square miles of territory in Ukraine and Belarus. But the small turnout in Slavutich suggested that Ukrainians are starting to forget the disaster.

Ukraine is pushing ahead to expand its use of nuclear energy, and is eager to finish building two new reactors in the west of the country. — *Reuters.*



Wife claims husband's seat for National Front

Jon Henley in Paris

THE fearsomely well-groomed wife of the only member of parliament for France's anti-foreigner National Front laid claim to her husband's seat yesterday in a bizarre by-election called after he was banned from office earlier this year.

Jean-Marie Le Chevallier, who is also mayor of the southern city of Toulon, put his wife and deputy mayor, Cendrine, up in his place when the constitutional court ruled in February that his landmark victory in the Var constituency in last June's general elections had been funded illegally.

"I have every bit as much experience as my husband and fully expect to benefit from the outrage many voters feel at the way he has been treated," said Mrs Le Chevallier, a National Front activist for more than 20 years who is reputedly more hardline than her husband.

Husband-and-wife teams are not new to the far-right front: Bruno Mégret, its deputy leader, persuaded his wife, Catherine, to stand in local elections last year when he was barred for exceeding spending limits. She won, and became France's fourth National Front mayor.

Mr Le Chevallier, a senior figure in the party which overturned the traditional order of French politics with its strong performance in last month's regional elections, collected 53 per cent of the vote in June and most analysts expect his wife to do equally well.

Toulon has been rocked by scandals since the Le Chevalliers took over the town hall in 1995. The most recent involved claims by an Algerian immigrant, Dalila El-Hache, that she was not allowed to bury her mother in a municipal cemetery as "it was reserved for true French people".

Despite judicial inquiries into allegations of nepotism and corruption, and the fact that Mrs Le Chevallier faces a £5,000 fine for alleged "political discrimination" against her staff, the couple remain popular and boast that they have cleaned up the town centre, repaired decaying school buildings, and lowered taxes and crime levels.

Like other National Front mayors, they have slashed municipal spending on "unsound" youth clubs, removed leftwing publications from town libraries and halted special school meals for Muslim and Jewish children. They have withdrawn subsidies for "non-French" musicians and for support groups for Aids patients and drug addicts.

"They run a very, very efficient machine," admitted Mrs Le Chevallier's Socialist opponent, Odette Casanova. "They have a lot of support in this town and have not made any big mistakes. Somehow, people are not afraid of them."

Cook urges EU to soothe Turks

Ian Black
Diplomatic Editor

BRITAIN is today urging its European Union partners to make a renewed effort to patch up relations with Turkey, which is still furious at being excluded from the next wave of EU membership.

At a meeting of EU foreign ministers Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, will try to overcome Greek opposition to the EU holding a long-delayed formal meeting with the Turks at the end of May.

Officials admit it is unlikely that — even if Mr Cook talks Athens into agreeing to such a meeting — he will be able to persuade Greece to lift the block it has put on payment by Brussels of millions of pounds owed to Turkey under the EU customs union.

This month Tony Blair wrote to the Turkish prime minister, Mesut Yilmaz, urging him to accept the sincerity of attempts to clear the air between Ankara and the union. "We want the Turks to see that notwithstanding their disappointment there is a process that recognises their importance to the EU," a senior British official said.

Austria signalled that it would continue attempts to mend fences when it takes over the EU presidency on July 1: "Turkey is an integral part of Europe and must be treated like the other candidate states and judged on the same objective conditions," the foreign minister, Wolfgang Schüssel, said.

Troubled relations worsened after December's Luxembourg summit invited Cyprus, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovenia and Estonia to begin talks on membership. Britain then invited all aspirants to last month's "European Conference" in London. Turkey boycotted the event when it was excluded even from the second tier of hopefuls.

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Comment



Buying a new toothbrush and giving it to your husband – that's poverty

Polly Toynbee



WHAT is it to be poor? Different for women and men. Whatever freedom, power and independence women may celebrate elsewhere, among families at the bottom astonishingly little has changed, in fact or attitude. A new piece of research out today from the Rowntree Foundation shows how money is spent in poor families with young children. It reads like a piece of social anthropology from a bygone age. Through this keyhole we glimpse those things governments prefer not to think about when they make decisions based on "family income". It casts new light on what happens behind the closed front door, who spends the money and where real power lies within families. It raises serious questions for the Government's plans for the Working Family Tax Credit.

Both partners in poor families were interviewed separately — families where the benefit system effectively prevents women working. It finds that however low a family's income, men have money to spend, while women don't. Where money is paid directly to women not men, far more of it is spent on the children. Spending on children and the household is regarded as women's money, while men still have pocket money for their own pleasure. What's more, women thought this right and proper. Even where they controlled the money, they ensured men had money for drink and hobbies, while they went without. "Have the men had enough?" is as strong an impulse as ever — they still give him the last slice of ham and take a Marmite sandwich for themselves.

The state pays Income Support or the Job Seekers Allowance directly to the man in a couple. Usually when he collects it he hands it over to her, minus whatever he keeps for himself — typically between £5 and £10 a week out of around £97 a week for four people, after rent. He may ask her for extra video or cigarette money sometimes. (Any extra money he earns on the side, on the black, they both regard as his exclusively.)

After that, budgeting is usually a woman's job. Men say they're no good at it. It's her domain, leaving her with all the responsibility for making ends meet and all the worries about debts. But, say the researchers, women still think giving men what they want important, taking a pride in keeping men happy, while men leave the worrying to women: "By letting women manage most of the money, men absolved themselves from responsibility," the researchers say.

Debts are mainly run up by men, among couples where the man works and the woman draws Family Credit which tops up low pay. (Unemployed families had trouble getting credit cards, so fewer debts.) Working men do hand over their wages, but because they're working they can get credit cards and many of them spend recklessly. Many had computers, which women regarded as a man's hobby but men described as collective family spending. One man said it was for his son — aged 22 months — and he had clocked up huge phone debts on the Internet. One model train enthusiast had just spent £300 on a new locomotive. One would sneak away and get cash-back on his card while his wife shopped in the supermarket. These things the men talked about surprisingly openly.

However, men thought women spent on "silly" things, which included her pleasure in dressing her children. She worried about finding money for school trips that can cost £100 and shoes, always shoes. All women's Child Benefit and Family Credit went on children, but women yearned for a little money for themselves: "Something that's mine, a little corner of my life that's mine, because nothing else is". One woman said she'd rather buy a new toothbrush for her husband and small son than for herself: "I'd tend to say I'm fine, I'll have a toothbrush next time when we've got the money'." Good grief, a toothbrush!

SO THAT'S how poverty looks and it looks different for men and women. The point of this study is to show that the Government is wrong to take Family Credit from 300,000 poor wives who risk losing it when the Working Family Tax Credit creates a new presumption that it should be transferred to men's pay packets instead. Both partners will have to sign a form saying how it should be paid, but the Government is well warned by this research to ensure the new form presumes it should still be paid to women. If not, it will do nothing but harm.

But this study reminds us of other issues. What is the poverty line and how should we determine the minimum decent level for any citizen? For 18 years a Conservative government refused to define what Income Support was supposed to cover, knowing it fell far short of any calculation. But it's a question a Labour government cannot avoid indefinitely, despite the last Budget's benefit increase. For however successful welfare to work is, there will always be some destitute families on Income Support for long periods.

The public perception of benefit levels is loaded with moral problems, with fear of frauds and layabouts. Isn't paying a decent sum just a disincentive to work when so many others do work for so little pay? Some think the lowest safety net should be a punitive deterrent. But if you ask the population what they regard as the absolute minimum for getting by, they list essentials such as winter coats, TV, video, fridge and a short holiday, which when added up, amount to far more than Income Support covers. And yet there is no evidence people would willingly pay much higher taxes to see the poor got these necessities.

Research shows most people think benefit levels are far higher than they actually are. If benefits are to approach enough to lift people out of destitution, then the public still needs persuading. One way to do that would be to establish a national benchmark for decency, even if income support didn't actually pay up to that level. A regular official survey of what people believe the poor should have would at least concentrate minds on how far the poor fall below that level. And today's research should make the Government think harder about how to get all benefits into the hands of women, not men, if they want the public to be assured that the money is well-spent.

Keep it together

Peter Preston



OUR success-sodden Prime Minister has a further beneficence to bestow as he walks on water between Belfast, Jerusalem and Treasury coffers groaning with loot. He can, at a stroke, bring the grimy grungy trade of political punditry into the modern age. He can decide not to have a cabinet reshuffle, probably ever again.

Don't, for a second, underestimate the challenge or the historic opportunity here. There will be powerful interests standing in his path; first among them, if truth be told, the pundits themselves.

They will ask openly (as they always ask themselves privately): what the hell are we going to write about this week? We can't keep writing about how wonderfully well the Blair lot are doing. Readers find paeans of endless praise boring — and if they don't, we do. We need dashed hopes and crumpled dreams lurking just around the corner. We need Titanic careers wrecked on the icebergs of ambition. It's being so gloomy as keeps us going.

And to these ancestral voices, of course, may be added others of formidable weight. The Amalgamated Union of Spin Doctors and Hoarse Whisperers: once a craft, now an industry. How are they to survive if Tittle is never poised to knife Tattle in the back, if young Mr Leak and old Dr Polson are finally put to sleep? There will be job losses beyond even Rupert Murdoch's ability to absorb them.

Together, under threat, the spinners and the yarners have the theoretical capability to arouse the sleeping giant hovering behind Mr Blair's chair: his hundreds upon hundreds of bored backbenchers desperate for a job. No shuffle, no chance of advancement. Will the natives grow restless at last?

As usual with New Labour, though, the reasons against change are precisely those which argue for it most cogently. Take success. There is so much of it about. Some pundits are approaching the first anniversary of their pieces pronouncing the honeymoon over — yet it goes on and on. Why lend the merchants of doom a helping hand? Why give them the excuse to maunder about whether Harriet's down or hanging on, whether David Clark and Gavin Strang are about to be ditched for the umpteenth time?

Reshuffles don't signal success. They admit failure and restlessness. They are as far off current message as you can go. Blair joins Yeltsin in cabinet carnage? It is, in broad context, a ridiculous proposition. In narrower detail too, it's pretty dotty.

Should Ms Harman, for instance, ever have been put in charge of welfare reform? The question before the answer seems innocent enough. But if she goes it will worm into another turn. Who appointed her in the first place? Cue columnar forests on Blair's First Great Blunder. It doesn't seem an attractive gambit.

EVEN the smaller fry of prospective sackings bring their problems in train. The nation won't stir over the demise of Strang or Clark. It probably doesn't know they're there in the first place. Those aficionados who do know, however, are likely to wonder at the justice of the boot. So Dr Strang speaks too warmly to the transport lobby? He's Minister of Transport, for heaven's sake. Who else is he supposed to speak to? And Dr Clark's Freedom of Information Bill is a small triumph in a bad world. What on earth's the point of wasting him and it?

There are, naturally, some greater heads which might roll in bleaker times. A government in terminal decline — like John Major's old mob — would not necessarily have stood by its Lord Chancellor through a blizzard of wallpaper gags; nor perhaps its Foreign Secretary between wives. But if the bigger boo-boos are to pass unscathed, why take it out on the underclass of political society?

The first canny thing Tony Blair did when he took office — a stroke of brilliance which looked merely mundane at the time — was to slot most of his old Shadows into the real jobs they'd been trained for. Welfare to work. He put the people who'd had time to learn what they were talking about in charge of doing things. It has paid constant dividends in terms of detail and grasp. Why churn all that away so soon?

William Hague — just across the floor — provides a vivid and hapless lesson in the peril of churn for churn's sake. He, too, may be about to keep the pundits in lead pencils for a while. Lilley's a wash out; Maples a cipher; Howard irrelevant; Mawhinney's jacking it in anyway; and Stephen Dorrell — a universal chorus this — is bent before the axe. Only Norman Fowler, eternal survivor, rattles a few Labour cages in the House.

BUT Peter Lilley knows about social security; been there, done that, could surely do it again to some effect. John Maples once flourished in the lower regions of the Treasury and could blossom further with a wider brief. Michael Howard might have remembered enough from his days at industry to make a few useful points. Stephen Dorrell has forgotten more about the NHS than Frank Dobson has yet managed to take on board. They aren't, in fairness, clapped out. They've merely been asked to play on the wrong parts of the park. They need a good manager and a faith healer, not transfer listing. Normal Fowler is effective because, over decades, he's been almost everywhere and done almost everything. He is an example of what could be for the rest of the squad with a little thought and TLC.

In the real world beyond politics, reshuffles hardly happen. People go; people come; people



Mr Blair does not need a reshuffle. He just needs to keep on riding high

join. But they do so naturally and singly. Businessmen with an eye to the Sunday Times top 1,000 build a team and refresh it as necessary. If sales plummet, they get a new sales director; they don't ditch the entire board. Only politics — and British politics at that, not American or European politics — functions to a different model, hunting the unholy grail of renewal through mass suicide and refreshing ignorance.

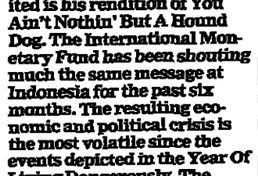
Mr Blair does not need a reshuffle. On the contrary, he needs to keep riding his winning streak. A modest switch here, a one-off tinker there will do quite as much for backbench aspirations as a spasm of change which leaves the bored leftovers hanging about for another year or two. Hope springs eternal, if it's not doused artificially. And William Hague is not above picking up that message too. It's rather like privatisation: the spurt in performance always comes before the deed is done.

Softly softly catchee stability. Sticky sticky (not twistee) might force the pundits to concentrate on the decent things that are happening — not prognostications of turmoil to come. And there is, as it happens, already a timely model that proves the point.

David Hill departs for a job in PR. Tim Allan heads for BSkyB on the wings of a chequebook. These are the movers and shakers of this government, the ones to tell humble ministers what they can and can't do. Crisis for Blair as top spin doctors quit? Hardly. They're doing what comes naturally, shuffling away to earn a munificent bob. The rhythm of life, not the phoney rhythm of politics.

Endpiece: tugging the forelock

Roy Hattersley



THERE is no point in continuing the debate as such about whether or not Enoch Powell was a racist. He obviously was. But one interesting question remains to be answered. Why did men and women — who are usually noted for their judgment and integrity — choose to argue otherwise? If Bernard Manning had told a story about "grinning pickaninnies" pushing faeces through old ladies' letter boxes, nobody would have had much doubt about how to describe his attitude. Even if the incident really took place — and that is by no means certain — the way in which Powell described it confirmed the desperate depth of his prejudice. The only point of the anecdote was the implication that the children of the Black and Asian British regularly assault pensioners with human excrement. If that is not racism, I do not know what is.

The encomiums which immediately followed his death can only in part be explained by the establishment addiction to the notion *de mortuis nil nisi bunkum*. To my shame, I did not have the courage to write in this column that I heard the news without the slightest twinge of regret. I say in my own defence that I did not feel a sudden obligation to describe him as scholar, soldier and saint. However people who should have known better did praise his supposed virtues without a mention of his undoubted vice. Then weeks after the final obsequies had been performed, the anniversary of the "rivers of blood" speech was used as an opportunity to assert that Enoch's only crime was loving England. The England he loved was pure white.

Enoch Powell's reputation has only one plausible defence against the allegation of innate racialism. It is that he did not believe what he said in Birmingham 30 years ago but that he thought a racially inflammatory speech was necessary to restore his reputation with the right-wing of the Tory party. He was, we know, publicity mad. In his heyday, he regarded a day out of the headlines was a day wasted. So it may have been a squalid manoeuvre, cynically intended to set the newspapers alight with his name. Strangely enough, none of his apologists have offered that excuse. Enoch Powell, they all say, was a man of absolute integrity. I am prepared to accept their assurances. He really believed all that garbage.

So why has he not become the figure of hatred that he deserves to be? The answer lies deep in the deference which still infects this country. Enoch Powell wore striped trousers and a homburg hat. In the war, he had risen to the rank of brigadier.

He was a student of the classics, a professor of Greek, the author of a book on the medieval parliament and an authority on A E Housman. What is more, he traded on his achievements in a way which constantly kept them in the public mind. I heard him — quite gratuitously — tell the House of Commons how, in 1939, he paid his own fare back from Australia in order to "put on the King's coat". I cannot be certain, but I assume that the item of autobiography was followed with either a Latin tag or an Hellenic aphorism. That was his style. His talent as a self-publicist made Jeffrey Archer look like a timid recluse.

IT WAS the carefully cultivated reputation as officer and gentleman which made his views on race so pernicious. His prejudices should have made him unacceptable in civilised society. Instead he made prejudice respectable. That was not because of his learning or his eloquence. The ordure story had already been told in the bar-rooms of a hundred low-life public houses. That is why I do not believe that some pathetic Wolverhampton geriatric described her personal experience to Powell. But in the class-ridden society of 1968 we expected the poor and ignorant to hold intolerable views. When they were expressed by a Privy Councillor and sometime Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, we began to wonder if, after all, they were as unacceptable as we had once imagined.

If last week's arguments are any guide, it seems that we still find it hard to believe that an educated man can hold uncouth opinions — or that so conspicuous a member of the professional classes could incite to racial hatred and possible violence. In our still class-ridden society we persist in judging the merits of the song on the social pedigree of the singer. On the day after Powell's death, a taxi driver told me that back in 1968, when he was a London docker, he had marched to Parliament "in support of Old Enoch". What, I asked, was the idea that he had wanted to encourage. "I don't know," he told me. "I don't think we really knew at the time. We thought our wives and children were being threatened. He was the sort of man we trusted. He was a real gentleman." Again I confess that my nerve failed me. I should have replied, "Tell that to the grinning pickaninnies".

I disliked Enoch Powell in life more than I have ever disliked any other human being — and I disliked him for his pretensions almost as much as for his undoubted racism. In death, he haunts me with what the recent debates reveal about our society. Dress up any opinion — no matter how odious — in striped trousers and black jacket and some people will feel an obligation to defend it. Indeed, if it has a neat military moustache and shining shoes, there will be those who feel sure that it is too well dressed to be unacceptable. Enoch Powell was Bernard Manning with a commission and a first class honours degree. Those advantages did not justify his racism. They made it all the more detestable.

e-mail

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IN THE hotel where Mel Gibson met Sigourney Weaver, nobody was meeting anybody on an empty dance floor. These are slow times at the Hotel Indonesia, a drab 1960s pile built with Soviet help and now marooned as a relic of the days when President Sukarno told the United States "Go to hell with your aid" — and was promptly overthrown.

Like probably every journalist sent to Indonesia in recent months, I came here half expecting a remake of The Year Of Living Dangerously. The film is Hollywood's version of the 1965-6 tumult that toppled Sukarno, triggered the massacre of some 500,000 people and ignited a steamy romance between an Australian reporter and a British diplomat.

Much of the on-screen drama unfolds at what looks like the Hotel Indonesia. The film was actually shot in the Philippines, since the events it depicts are far too politically sensitive to be replayed on the streets of Jakarta. So taboo do the convulsions of the 1960s remain that Indonesian intellectuals are now circulating samizdat copies of a newly published Australian potboiler based loosely on the chaos that propelled President Suharto to power.

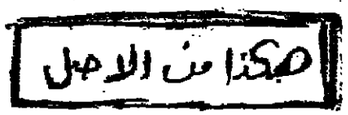
The real Hotel Indonesia is immediately recognisable to anyone who has watched the film, a tribute to the accuracy of the Philippine mock-up. A sucker for nostalgic kitsch, I checked in. Nearly everyone else, though, has checked out. About the only guests left were civil servants from the provinces. The state runs the place so they get free rooms.

It does not take long to work out why everyone else has fled. Indonesia's current economic crisis is only partly to blame. The rest of the credit should perhaps go to the Russians. They pulled out ages ago but their influence lingers. At the Hotel Indonesia, room service operates on geological time.

Adding further period authenticity is "Yonto" Presley, an accomplished Elvis impersonator in the top floor bar. Before a phantom audience he wiggles and warbles through a repertoire of antique hits. Particularly spirited is his rendition of You Ain't Nothin' But A Hound Dog. The International Monetary Fund has been shouting much the same message at Indonesia for the past six months. The resulting economic and political crisis is the most volatile since the events depicted in the Year Of Living Dangerously. The script, though, has changed.

The great ideological battles that underpinned Indonesia's past turmoil have been replaced by arcane quarrels among economists. Arousing much passion today is something called a "currency board". Hardly the stuff of Hollywood. And instead of living dangerously, journalists in Jakarta now find themselves living extremely comfortably. The collapse of Indonesia's currency, the rupiah, has made a bargain of the big story.

At the Hotel Indonesia, the singer ends with a message: "Remember, Elvis is dead but he is still singing". And, against all the odds, President Suharto is still ruling.



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Mr Hague's tricky year

He must start opposing

IT'S NOT just Tony Blair's anniversary. The May 1 landslide changed the lives of William Hague and Paddy Ashdown, too. All three men will be engaged in some careful reflection this week, but our own efforts will start with Mr Hague.

The Conservative leader can be forgiven for harbouring mixed feelings. In a single move, the 1997 election handed his party the biggest rejection in modern political history while handing him the greatest opportunity of his career. The year that has passed since probably stirs equal ambivalence. He can be satisfied that the Conservatives have at last undertaken a process of internal reform. Now there will be a single Conservative Party — an entity that did not legally exist before — with members granted some say in their choice of leader. Efficiency rather than genuine democracy has probably been the result: with the added benefit of strengthening Mr Hague's own position, making him much less vulnerable to the backbench challenges of old.

The leader can also draw comfort from his admittedly infrequent attempts to suggest a Conservative Party of the future: still fiscally conservative, but socially more liberal. There were hints of it in the "caring Conservatism" speech at Blackpool last October, but it's been on display elsewhere too — including some of those episodes condemned at the time as either naff or gaffe. When Mr Hague showed his face at the Notting Hill Carnival, or announced he would share a room with his girlfriend before marriage, or revealed that a good walk in the Dales was more spiritually uplifting than a visit to church, he suggested a new kind of Conservative leader — one more in tune with the country Britain has become.

For all that, William Hague has more to regret than to celebrate. He may glimpse a kinder, gentler Conservatism, but his party hardly seems to have made the shift with him. With their continued Euro-bashing and Little Englander carping about devolution, too many Tories seem deaf to the message of last May. Before the election, some Conservatives whispered that a spell in opposition might do them good: they would have a chance for serious debate and fresh thinking. So far there are all too few signs of that. Instead, the party still looks bewildered by defeat. They have landed almost no straight punches on Labour, proving themselves to be as incompetent in opposition as they were in government. Mr Hague himself has performed well in Question Time, but his MPs have been almost marginal to the national debate. The absence of Andrew Mackay, supposedly the shadow Northern Ireland secretary, in the crucial days leading up to the Good Friday agreement was only the most pointed illustration of the malaise.

William Hague may have a sound long-term vision of his party and a good organisational head, but he has to prove himself in the one job he has already — as leader of the opposition. If he fails in that task, then this will have been not just an unhappy year for the Conservatives, but the start of a long, miserable decade.

Kosovo on brink

World must prepare to intervene

THE MARCH towards disaster in the southern Serbian province of Kosovo is gathering pace, and the international Contact Group will have a hard job to stop it when its officials confer in Rome on Wednesday. In spite of tighter sanctions, the Yugoslav leader Slobodan Milosevic, has stepped up his brinkmanship since the Group met last month.

He held a referendum last week to give himself an overwhelming mandate to reject foreign mediation in the talks. Although outside mediation has proved useful in scores of other conflicts from Palestine and Northern Ireland to Angola and Cambodia, Milosevic insists on presenting it as an affront to sovereigty. Instead of withdrawing the paramilitary Serb police from Kosovo — as the Contact Group demanded — he has sent Yugoslav troops to the border area with Albania to raid villages peopled by Kosovo Albanians.

For their part, the Kosovo Albanians who form 90 per cent of the province's population are increasingly turning to military activity. The so-called Liberation Army which began as a lightly armed partisan force defending its villages is getting heavier weapons from Albania and turning into an offensive force. The danger of mafia activity which looted and destroyed scores of towns in Albania proper last year now threatens to move into western Kosovo. The pickings would be high since towns such as Prizren and Pec are more affluent than anything Albania used to have.

Faced with this grim scenario, the consensus in the Contact Group seems to be moving away from further sanctions on Yugoslavia towards a more comprehensive package of carrots and sticks. One factor is the need to protect the vulnerably small Yugoslav republic of Montenegro, which has a new leader who is more sympathetic to the Western line. Giving Milosevic incentives as well as punishments is acceptable if it is part of a clearly defined package of steps. In return for a phasing out of sanctions Belgrade must be required to make a genuine offer of autonomy and not exclude discussion of a new constitutional status for Kosovo and withdraw his forces. At the same time the Kosovo Albanians must be urged to join talks without preconditions and accept a freeze on weapons coming in.

But the outside world must also prepare for intervention if only on humanitarian grounds. Nato's recent missions to Albania to assess that country's security should only be the first step in a programme which will require the deployment of troops. As the international force continues to wind down in Bosnia this summer, some of its troops should be sent to Albania and Macedonia to help to pre-empt what otherwise could be another looming bloodbath in Europe.

Letters to the Editor

Atheists and organists

DERMOT Morgan (Catholic critic Father Ted still causing controversy, April 23) was a committed atheist with the courage to challenge the absurdities of his country's Church. It was inappropriate for people from that Church to intrude themselves into his funeral, making it look as if he hadn't rejected them and all their works. Perhaps William Burroughs's maxim "Never let a priest near you when you're dying" should be broadened to "and don't let one near me after death".
Peter Carr.
Glenelg, Ross-Shire.

NOTHING new in the allegations at Westminster (Queen embroiled in cash scandal after Dean sacks Abbey organist, April 23). In 1689, for the coronation of William and Mary, Henry Purcell, then abbey organist, took money from spectators whom he admitted to the great organ loft. The Dean gave him two days to hand it over or be fired. He complied.
Michael Browning.
Harpenden, Herts.

WHEN comparing the difficulties of bowel screening and other types of screening the Department of Health spokesman is reported to have said: "To test for it properly is quite invasive. It is not like a mammogram or a cervical smear" (Move to screen high risk groups for bowel cancer, April 22). Just where does he think the cervix is?
Mary Burden.
Leicester.

GIVEN your Pass Notes on Redcar (April 23) it might have been appropriate on World Book Day to have celebrated its literary associations. These include Gertrude Bell, Nathaniel Hawthorne and Ford Madox Ford. Jane Gardam's wonderful early books recall her childhood there. And isn't your own Simon Hoggart a native?
Alan Myers.
Hitchen, Herts.

I HAVE been to Benidorm many times and to Redcar once. I can assure you that the only similarity is that the residents of neither resort speak English.
B Emmerson.
Selby, N Yorks.

Ways to make CSA work

WHILE it is hardly surprising that most single mothers are not complying with the CSA's demands to give the name of the fathers of their kids (More women shun baffling CSA, April 21; Polly Toynbee, April 22), I find it disturbing that campaigning groups are recommending that they say they fear violence — even when it is unlikely. Lying about violence will mean that many women who really are in that situation may come under more suspicion and official hassle.

When I got the forms from the CSA, I noticed that not only violence but "undue distress" was a possible reason to not authorise them to chase the father. I did not want to accuse the father of my child of violence I'd never experienced, and was afraid that such an accusation might compromise him unfairly in the future. The case I made was that the father would withdraw the childcare he was (and still is) giving if he had to pay CSA-regulated maintenance, thus damaging his relationship with our child and my ability to work — worth far more than whatever money the CSA might deem him liable to give.

To disturb our arrangements would, in my book, cause everyone "undue distress". The CSA agreed, although time spent by fathers with their children does not seem to appear in their calculations for maintenance. It should. In my experience the time the father spends looking after our child has been crucial to my sanity and ability to do other things; his sanity and involvement in our child's upbringing; and most importantly, our child's happiness.

Mothers should be given help to pursue fathers for money or time when they feel they need it. More than any new formula, this would cut down on the CSA's workload. Many ex-couples are capable of — and do — make amicable arrangements, and the government should respect these.
Name and address supplied.

THE existing CSA formula is elaborate because it seeks to be fair, but it is wrong to suggest that it is Byzantine in its complexity. The calculation is no more complex that of income tax. However, the CSA does not possess the appropriate skills. Much of the information required by the CSA is already collected by the Inland Revenue which also possess the expertise to carry out the calculations. Why not give the task of collecting maintenance to a special department of the Inland Revenue service? That way, payment dodgers would find it much more difficult to hide their income.
J J Birtill.
Guisborough.

IS IT possible that we can at last think about replacement for the CSA based on evidence and not on moralising about what family life ought to look like? Many studies (including ours) have found that most lone mothers would work given the prospect of adequate, secure income and appropriate, reliable childcare. And Polly Toynbee echoed our conclusion that paying lone mothers on benefit a proportion of the maintenance collected by the CSA would remove the sense of injustice which is shared by many separated parents of both genders and contribute to improved living standards for the poorest mothers and children.

Rather than (usually unsuccessfully) concentrating on chasing the "won't payers", would it not make more sense to amend legislation to respond to the known wishes of those many "don't payers" who otherwise would co-operate with the agency?
Prof Gary Craig.
Humberside University, Hull.

Executions will not bring peace

IN HER call for the execution of those suspected of genocide in Rwanda (Shoot the lot of them, April 24) Victoria Brittain refers to "mistakes and apparent partiality in [Amnesty International's] reports on Rwanda" and claims that "the accused have had lawyers and appeals wherever possible".

In fact, more than half of those tried in 1997 did not have access to legal representation. Defence witnesses were frequently intimidated or prevented from testifying. Although many of the 130,000 people presently detained for genocide in Rwanda are no doubt guilty, others have been arbitrarily arrested on the basis of little or no evidence, and these include critics of the government.

Fidele Makombe, the prosecutor at Kibuye, was beaten up by soldiers last May when he refused to arrest people in the absence of evidence. One of those executed on Friday, Silas Munyagishali, was himself an assistant prosecutor at Kigali who had complained about judicial irregularities. At his trial defence witnesses were threatened.

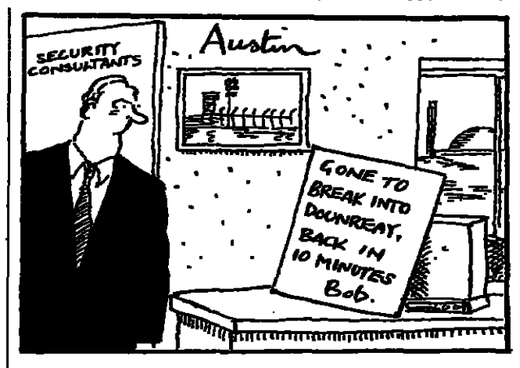
It is vitally important to draw attention to the abuses still being committed by armed opposition groups against unarmed civilians in north-west Rwanda, but Ms Brittain fails to acknowledge the equally grave abuses being committed in the same area by government forces.

We are campaigning to bring those responsible for the 1994 genocide in Rwanda to justice, but last week's executions set back the chances of real peace and reconciliation.
Mark Lattimer.
Communications director, Amnesty International UK.

WHETHER or not the international bodies have been consistent on Rwanda is not the question. What is worrying is whether the Rwandese leaders are setting the right tone for national reconciliation and whether the condemned men had a fair trial.

It has often been said the present Rwandese government is made up of literate, thoughtful men. I hope these leaders will be aware of how, in the name of justice, many regimes committed acts of unmitigated savagery.
Sonsa Jamba.
London.

We do not publish letters where only an e-mail address or truncated address is supplied; please include a full postal address and day-time telephone number. We may edit letters: shorter ones are more likely to appear. We regret we cannot acknowledge those not used. The Country Diary is on Page 10



End exclusions merry-go-round

FOR 10 years I have served on the governors' committee of a secondary school which reviews the behaviour of pupils. The cost of exclusions ('£81m cost' of unruly pupils, April 21) must be a matter of some concern, but what should be of greater concern is the expenditure that goes to provide anything to meet the needs of excluded pupils.

Excluded pupils are often violent and disruptive to the education of other children, and have exhausted all the strategies of a caring school. They have often had a history of family turmoil and a lack of personal achievement, and inflict their misery on other children. It is sad when a school has to permanently exclude any child. It is even more demoralising when little, if anything, is done for that child, and entirely predictable that he (it is mostly boys) may go on to commit crimes because of lack of remedial attention.

One of the measures suggested by the New Policy Institute is to set up a panel of local business people, school governors and the police to decide on exclusions. What evidence or first-hand experience of how to manage errant school behaviour would such a panel have? More meetings, more costly reports are the last things needed. These children often have files inches thick dating from their primary schools. Head teachers do not exclude "in isolation" and the only pressure they are under is the welfare and education of the majority of their pupils.

But the most outrageous aspect of this report is that it calls for "schools to be made to accept excluded pupils from other schools". This has operated for years. A school cannot refuse to accept any pupil if it has spare places. This means more children are subjected to disruption.

The root problem is covered up until school leaving age, when it is passed on to society at large. Is this the best that the New Policy Institute can come up with — to put these sad children on a merry-go-round of exclusions?
Irene Machin.
Stockton-on-Tees.

Bum race rap

YOUR leader (April 23) repeated the old charge of racism against Ezra Pound and T S Eliot. In the case of Pound this is particularly unjust as his greatest work, The Cantos, is an epic creating a unity out of the best in the civilisations of east and west: "For the little light and more harmony/Oh God of all men, none excluded" (Canto 113).
William Cookson.
Editor, Agenda, London.

JAMES Campbell contrasts the politically engaged bohemianism of Lawrence Ferlinghetti (The old man of the Beat, April 16) with Jack Kerouac's alleged philosophy of "kicks, joy, and wow!" — probably derived from "Youth in search of sex and kicks" on the cover of early editions of On The Road. Kerouac's definition of beatness related it to beatitude. His spirituality is shared by Ferlinghetti, whose poetry calls for "a rebirth of wonder".
Michael Horovitz.
London.

Dounreay denies danger, but should we return all waste?

GEORGE Monbiot's article (Bomb grade cowardice, April 22) was inaccurate and likely to cause needless concern. To deal with just some of the points.

To state Dounreay is the most dangerous plant outside the former eastern bloc is simply not true. Dounreay operates under a licensing regime recognised to be among the most stringent in the world.

The claim that the UKAEA was "forced to reveal" the existence of the intermediate level waste shaft last year is astonishing. The shaft was licensed for use in the late 1950s. Reports on the shaft have appeared in the local, Scottish, and national press ever since. Regular reports are made to the local community and to our regulators as a condition of our nuclear site licence. Government advisory committees such as RWMAC and Comare have also studied the shaft and published reports.

The second "hole" presumably refers to the wet silo which is a waste facility licensed for use by the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate.
Dr Roy Nelson.
Dounreay director, Caithness.

YOU say (Blair defends uranium deal, April 23) that "unlike Britain, France has legislation barring the import of irradiated nuclear material". In fact the French company Cogema has got massive contracts to import irradiated spent nuclear fuel for reprocessing at its plant at La Hague in Normandy.

Cogema has orders to reprocess 9,150 tonnes of fuel from Germany, Japan, Belgium, Switzerland, and the Netherlands. As of March 1, 7,105 tonnes had been treated. In addition France has about 1,900 tonnes of irradiated fuel from Spain to treat at its reprocessing plant at Marcoule.

Energy minister John Battle said on February 9 that since 1990 BNFL had imported 1,700 tonnes of spent (irradiated) nuclear fuel for reprocessing at Sellafield; whilst the UK Atomic Energy Authority had received some 4,000 tonnes for Dounreay.

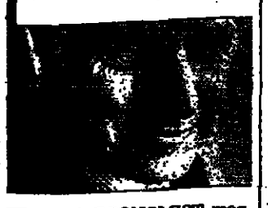
What does dinstinguish France from the UK is a 1991 law that prohibits the retention of foreign reprocessing wastes, requiring their timely repatriation. In the UK there is no such law; instead we have a ministerial commitment, first enunciated by Tony Benn as energy minister in March 1976 and repeated by successive administrations.

Whether any reprocessing waste is ever sent back to its country of origin is a moot point. But what we lack — as Tony Benn said in Parliament last Wednesday — is parliamentary scrutiny of these deals, because they are not being conducted under an act of parliament, rather by ministerial fiat. A radical new policy is evidently required.
Dr David Lowry,
Stoneleigh, Surrey.



Pause for thought

David McKie



THE ECONOMIST magazine is running a poster campaign with the message: "Silence is golden, except when it follows an awkward question." The implication is that if you take the Economist, you furnish yourself with such spiffing information on every conceivable question that you're never stuck for an answer.

But I think the proposition is wrong. In any sane organisation, it's precisely when you are faced with an awkward question that silence is at its most golden: the silence which gives you time to think before you're required to speak, instead of just blurting out the first three thoughts which come prancing into your head. What's wrong is not the practice of silence, but the fact that today's high-speed all-action world regards a moment of silence in the face of an awkward question as hopelessly wimpish.

I thought of the Economist ad when I listened eight days ago to the first of BBC Radio's new Sunday morning news and analysis programmes, Broadcasting House. In a brave departure from normal practice, they'd chosen a panel of experts only one of whom was a regular fount of media opinion. The other two were all too clearly untrained in the world of rapid response. They paused before they replied, trying to balance their answers. Radio critics were scathing about the show: so slow, they said, so dull.

It used to be understood that certain eminent people preferred not to speak at all unless or until they had something useful to say. I read the other day of some fearfully eminent Victorian sage who, when some taxing question was put to him in his drawing room, would show no sign at all that he'd heard it, until, 20 minutes or half an hour later, when the room was busy on something else, he would give his considered answer. He certainly wasn't alone in such practices. One famous apostle of silence was Benjamin Jowett, Master of Balliol College, Oxford. Though in groups of congenial friends he could be quite garrulous, he was at other times capable of silences amounting almost to cruelty. One of his biographers records an occasion when an undergraduate invited to breakfast was treated, as such visitors frequently were, to an epic Jowettian silence. Eventually the student could bear it no longer. "What a fine day it is!" he ventured. Jowett said nothing whatever until his guest rose to leave. Then he said only: "That was a very foolish observation of yours."

JOWETT could not stand small talk. Though a politician, Gladstone too had little patience with conversation for conversation's sake. Jocularity, it was said, died in his presence. In his wonderful book As We Were, E F Benson recalls how a woman admirer seated herself next to Tennyson, but was so overwhelmed by his presence that she found herself unable to speak. For a long while the bard remained silent. Then at last he spoke. "Your stays creak," he said. Later that afternoon he came to apologise. "I beg your pardon," he said, "it was my braces." But her heart was already broken.

In Jowett's case, silence had something to do with it too. He was also perhaps regardful of the Bible's many injunctions to keep one's promiscuous tongue under restraint. There is a time to keep silence, and a time to speak (Ecclesiastes). God is in his heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few (ditto).

The Guardian for many years now has invited eminent people to talk to its staff on a Tuesday morning, few of whom have ever been stuck for an instant opinion. We once entertained Cardinal Hume. The first question put to him evoked not the usual torrent of words but a silence. We looked at each other and fidgeted. After what felt like an aeon, he spoke; and the wait had been worth it. He had done us the honour of thinking about the question and deciding his answer before he began to speak. The pauses continued throughout: he left at the end in a great warm bath of respect.

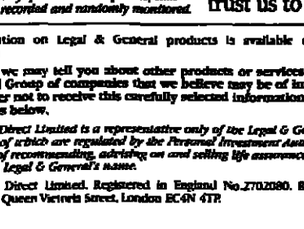
These are not the kind of responses favoured by media producers. I've been trying all week to devise some production device which would allow studio guests a moment's reflection. And for television I think I have found one. When my computer is asked to perform some function which takes a moment or two, its cursor changes into an hourglass. "It's thinking," my wife explained the first time this happened. They could use the hourglass symbol on television.

"Daddy, why has that man's face got an hourglass in front of it?"

"Hush, child; it's a sign of a pundit thinking before he speaks. Mark it well: you may never see that again."

Radio is rather more difficult. A ticking metronome is suggested: but that might only emphasise the time you are having to wait. Still — better that than some arbitrary snatch of Vivaldi.

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Jean-François Lyotard

Narrator of postmodernism

JEAN-François Lyotard, who has died aged 73, will be remembered in the English-speaking world for his account of the "postmodern condition" he believed we inhabit. Ironically, this passionate opponent of systematic, overarching, explanatory theories — "grand narratives", as he called them — only took up this position after some 30 years' of engagement with the two most influential grand narratives of our century, Marxism and psychoanalysis.

Lyotard was born in Versailles. At the end of the second world war he went to the Sorbonne, where he studied philosophy. There he was drawn to phenomenology, the dominant philosophical school of the period associated with Jean-Paul Sartre and Maurice Merleau-Ponty. After toying with the idea of becoming a Dominican priest, he spent 10 years working as a philosophy teacher in secondary schools.

One of his first jobs was in a lycée in the Algerian town of Constantine. Algeria radicalised him. The FLN was beginning its agitation against the French and Lyotard took sides against his country. On his return to France in 1956, he joined the editorial board of Socialism or Barbarism, a periodical produced by young intellectuals sympathetic to Marxism. Most of his writing of that time appeared here. A key preoccupation of the journal was with the Soviet bureaucracy's use of Marxism to suppress the political fortunes of those it claimed to champion.

Many years later, in his work on postmodernism, Lyotard would make a similar claim about the way western multinational companies appealed to "science" and "efficiency" to justify their control over economic life.

By 1963, Lyotard had come to feel that Socialism or Barbarism was too removed from political activity and he resigned, spending the next two years as a member of Pouvoir Ouvrier (Workers' Power), a revolutionary socialist organisation. But it was Socialism or Barbarism that had the more enduring influence on Lyotard's work. The distinctive feature of the group, and its theoretical strength, was not its Marxism but its interest in the critical potential of psychoanalysis, a theme that became central to Lyotard's thought. Among the group's most prominent members were the psychoanalysts Jean Laplanche and Cornelius Castoriadis.

In May 1968, Lyotard, officially employed on the wrong side of the barricades as a university lecturer at Nanterre, belonged to Le Mouvement du 22 mars, a spontaneous anti-authoritarian grouping. "The movement of '68", he later wrote, "seemed to us to do and say on a grand scale what we had sketched out in words and actions in miniature."

His works in the 1970s applied ideas borrowed from Marxism and psychoanalysis to the study of avant-garde art. *The avant-garde*, he claimed, tapped the unconscious mind, subverting the values of bourgeois society by affirming the primacy of desire. Lyotard was especially interested in the way the visual arts achieved this. In *Discourse/Figure* (1971) he developed the notion of the "figural": that aspect of a work whose meaning and effect, unlike its discursive aspects, cannot be generated from a set of rules such as those that generate linguistic meaning.

This idea was a shot across the bows of the structuralism prevailing in France at that time which sought precisely to extend the model of linguistic structure to works of art and social phenomena. It marked Lyotard out as an early post-structuralist. But it was consistent with all of his work hitherto.

In 1979, Lyotard published his most widely-read work, *The Postmodern Condition*. This controversial book came into being as a commissioned report for the government of Québec to guide university policy, its subject being the status of knowledge in the most highly developed societies. Lyotard argued that the postmodern condition that had followed the age of industrialisation had changed both the status and the nature of knowledge.

It entailed an entirely new way of seeing the world. Industrial societies produce relatively homogeneous cultures, and live by the Enlightenment ideals of rationality, scientific inquiry and the possibility of progress.

Post-industrial societies, by contrast, are dominated by information technology and such purely pragmatic values as efficacy. The theories which in the modern age promised truth or justice can no longer hold. In the postmodern world, these "grand narratives" must be seen as no more than language games, each governed by its own rules, and irreconcilable with the others.

This was more than the claim, frequently made, that history has left good Marxists in the lurch. Lyotard was denying the possibility of objective truth altogether: instead, there were only narratives. According to this picture, unsurprisingly, scientific inquiry becomes demoted. Science is like any other language game, enjoying authority only to the extent that people play by its rules. Narrative, rather than reality, becomes the source of all value and truth.



Against grand schemes of history . . . Lyotard

These claims, and most especially the rejection of truth, doomed Lyotard in the eyes of many Anglo-American philosophers. At the same time *The Postmodern Condition* brought him a new following among sociologists, adding to the influence his work had already had on literary and aesthetic criticism. A string of appointments at prestigious American universities followed. For all that, *The Postmodern Condition* was an interruption. In the 1980s, Lyotard returned to consider avant-garde art, and developed new ideas on the language of justice. Among his most recent work was a biography of André Malraux. The effort to capture the subversive potential of artistic creativity remained the hallmark of his work to the end.

He is survived by his wife, Dolores, a son and two daughters.

Neil Vickers

Jean-François Lyotard, philosopher, born August 10, 1924; died April 21, 1998

Joan Heal

Glittering age of revues

HAS it ever been decided just how much our theatre lost when it said goodbye to intimate revue and small-scale musical comedy? Joan Heal, who has died aged 75, was a queen of both.

In an era when anything goes it is hard to convey the sense of mischievous fun in getting something past the censor, or furtively mocking public figures or institutions, that thrived in the postwar heyday of what passed for satirical wit and social satire. Joan Heal had the best of it, and yet, after nearly two decades of sharp, stylish and often intelligently frivolous song-and-dance, she turned fearlessly legitimate.

She was born in Somerset, educated at Bath High School, and, determined to make a career in the theatre, trained at the Old Vic School, the London Mask Theatre School and at the Buddy Bradley School of Dancing.

Having hoofed in the West End with such legends as Jessie Matthews, Jack and Claude Hulbert, and Bobby Howes, when talents like Ian Carmichael, Dora Bryan and Beryl Reid were finding their feet, Heal plunged into Shakespeare, Shaw, Farquhar, Brecht, Calderon and Euripides. It was very disturbing for admirers, and not always pleasing.

Her bloodthirsty Agave was a bit of a laugh at Hampstead in *The Disorderly Women* (1970), although she thrived, as you might expect, in Restoration comedy and in Shakespeare, as Katharine in *The Taming of the Shrew* at Nottingham in 1961-62 and as Mrs Squeezum in *Lock Up Your Daughters* at Bristol.

The 1960s and 1970s brought distinction for the repertory theatre. So it was no shame for an actress of her class to act in the provinces. There were also modern authors to interest her, such as Harold Pinter, James Saunders and Donald Howarth (at the Royal Court); and Alan Sillitoe, in the stage premiere of whose *Saturday Night and Sunday Morning* she returned to the West End in 1966.

The point is that all those 1950s West End revues such as the *Lyric Revue*, the *Globe Revue* and *Intimacy at 8.30* gave her the timing and technique that serve a player on all occasions.

In her prime, on the Lyric stage in Hammersmith, west London, Heal gave perhaps the widest pleasure, especially in the Julian More show, *Grab Me A Gondolier* (1956), which turned her into a star. She played the cliché — a film festival starlet who aspired, at any rate in interviews, to be a serious dramatic actress. Even today, some of us can still hum nostalgically the number, *Cravin' for the Avon*.

At the end of the show's run, she went to the Bristol Old Vic in the part that Bernard Shaw wrote for Ellen Terry, Lady Cicely in *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*. Not that musical comedies, or revues, were put entirely behind her. There was Rattigan's disastrous musical, *Joie de Vivre*, and her fairy godmother in *Cinderella* at the Adelphi. In 1961, she was back in the West End with Beryl Reid in the revue, *On The Avenue*. She also played Madame K in *Divorce Me, Darling* (1965), Sandy Wilson's sequel to *The Boyfriend*, and a tribute to Cole Porter, *The Decline and Fall of the Entire World* (1966).

Six years later, she was involved in that early, joyous portent of a new wave in English musicals, Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat* at the Young Vic, in which she lit up the stage both as Leah and Potiphar's wife.

Sandy Wilson summed her up with typical shrewdness and sensibility. "In a theatre where style, wit and charm still counted, Joan Heal was supreme." Much virtue in that still. And what a training ground was lost when revue disappeared.

She was twice married and divorced, first to the revue actor Jeremy Hawk and later to David Conyers. She had a daughter from the first marriage and a son from the second.

Eric Shorter

Joan Heal, actress and singer, born October 17, 1922; died April 12, 1998



Sparkling wit . . . revue taught Joan Heal the technique that served her through a varied career PHOTOGRAPH: ANTHONY BUCKLEY

Michael Weitzman

Speaking in tongues

THE brilliant biblical scholar, Michael Weitzman, who has died aged 51 after a thrombosis, was the personification of the Hebraist. He was a philologist of semitic languages, among them Syriac, Aramaic and biblical Hebrew. His mastery of various languages astonished his colleagues. He was fluent in French, German, Italian, Spanish and modern Hebrew.

He had a phenomenal memory. He knew by heart most, if not all, the five books of Moses, which he read to his fellow congregants at the Stanmore United Synagogue. It was a remarkable experience to watch him mouth the words of the Torah without a book, simultaneously and sometimes slightly ahead of the text being recited.

Michael was fascinated by the evolution of the Hebrew language, its vast literature and the translations into other tongues following the destruction of the Second Temple, the Jewish dispersion and the rise of Christianity. He displayed remarkable ingenuity in his use of computer analysis in testing biblical texts, deducing significant information from the frequency of certain words.

He imbibed his knowledge of Hebrew from his father, Adrian, a teacher, and with his encouragement passed a classical Hebrew O-level at the age of nine, at the Jewish Hasmonean grammar school. Winning a scholarship to St John's College, Cambridge, he graduated with a first-class degree in oriental studies, followed a year later by a first in mathematics at London University — where he also gained his doctorate.

With the support of Professor Chimen Abramsky, who early recognised his brilliance, Michael became a lecturer in Hebrew and Jewish studies at University College, London, in 1972, and a reader two years ago. He lectured extensively in London and Jerusalem and was also a consultant etymologist to the Oxford English dictionaries, a post that gave him special satisfaction. One of his most notable collaborations was with his friend, the novelist and writer Chaim Bermant. Their joint book on the archeological enigma at Ebla, Syria, was translated into a number of languages, including Hebrew and Japanese.



Hebraist . . . Weitzman

He was a dedicated, unselfish scholar with a cheerful and benign outlook. Only when he felt that scholarship was misused to promote untenable theories, such as in the cases of the so-called "biblical codes", did he use a sharp pen (in the Jewish Chronicle) to castigate the authors and wittily demolish what he considered ridiculous ideas.

Michael was fascinated by the Syriac translation of the Hebrew Bible, known as the *Peshitta*. He was considered a world expert on the subject but he never ceased delving into its mysteries. Only a few weeks ago, he invited me to toast with him the completion, after 20 years of labour, of his *The Syriac Version of the Old Testament: an Introduction*, which he hoped to see published shortly as a definitive work on the subject.

For Michael, the Society for Jewish Study, with its learned journal, was a cause also deserving his keen, unstinting loyalty. He was its chairman and occasional lecturer, always drawing admiring audiences.

Michael married Anita Haimon, an Israeli, in 1980. She survives him together with their two children, Gail and Alexander.

Joseph Finkelstone

Michael Weitzman, biblical scholar, born July 25, 1946; died March 21, 1998

Letters: **Trevor Huddleston**

Julius Nyerere, former president of Tanzania, writes: Trevor Huddleston (*obituary April 21*) never faltered in his commitment to the anti-apartheid struggle; but while serving as Bishop of Masasi in the 1960s he served the people of that somewhat isolated diocese without reservation, clearly seeing the two tasks as one — the development of human dignity in Africa. The bishop worked with village leaders to establish a Young People's Agricultural Training Centre and village co-operatives as well as giving a lead on the expansion of mission social service activities.

Throughout his service in Tanzania the bishop also acted — and when he thought it necessary, spoke publicly — as a sympathetic and supportive but still critical friend of the independence government and its leadership. At no time did he compromise on his commitment to human dignity, equality and the right of all to social and economic development.

When living in the UK, Bishop Trevor Huddleston continued to express in work his concern for all the peoples of Africa, although it was still South Africa to which his thoughts returned most often. Thus he became a functioning patron of Tools for Self-Reliance, and president of the two chapters of the British Tanzania Society; he took a continuing interest in both until his death.

Simon Funnell writes: I first met Trevor Huddleston as a young child, when, with my mother, he became involved in setting up a centre for children with disabilities now known as the Huddleston Centre, Hackney, an organisation of which he was patron.

He became a personal friend of the family and was fascinating to talk to. I interviewed him for my school magazine and he spent a whole afternoon with me, the perfect host in his small London flat near St James' Piccadilly. There was an endless supply of tea and biscuits, but more important were the anecdotes of his life in Africa, and his passion for South Africa.

Even then he believed that apartheid would come to an end, even when the rest of us found it hard to believe.

I interviewed him again when I was studying radio journalism. Again, he was the congenial host, taking me out to lunch and finding out all about my life, and the latest news from my family.

Trevor's loyalty, concern and care for his personal friends was exceptional. One of our family's favourite memories of him is when he came to us for Sunday lunch. Halfway through the apple crumble, he casually mentioned that he was meant to be going to a garden party at Buckingham Palace that day, but had decided he would prefer to spend it with us.

Tim Sanders writes: Trevor Huddleston always spoke with clarity and commitment when he addressed anti-apartheid or trade union rallies and conferences — he never indulged in the reminiscence or sentimentality which his audiences would have excused in a campaigner of his age and status.

Just once, after the ANC's election victory in 1994, did anti-apartheid delegates hear him talk about his past. At the time it might have been thought that he was preparing to retire with his memories, having achieved his ambition to outlive the apartheid state. However, it turned out that he was just pausing for a look back before getting on with the work.

Albert Mann writes: I met Trevor when he was Bishop of Stepney and I was training and working for the mentally ill with the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association in the East End. Trevor often came to our meetings, and he gave us all hope for the future.

I met him again later, at Westminster Abbey for the Centenary of Toynbee Hall, my university; he remembered me. He changed my life.

Revd Gerry A Bishton: When Trevor Huddleston came to give the college lecture at West Ham College of Technology in 1965 he chose as his theme The Arusha Declaration, but more importantly, he chatted freely in Swahili for more than an hour afterwards with some of the college's many African students. For many present, particularly those who rarely heard anybody concerned about their homelands, it was an electrifying experience. He truly had the gift of tongues worth possessing in this century of the Christian era.

● *There will be a requiem Eucharist for Trevor Huddleston at St James's Piccadilly on Thursday, April 30 at 6.30pm.*

A Country Diary

THE LAKE DISTRICT: There were patches of ice on Wetherlam Edge and a flurry of hail as we scrambled up, but the clouds were high and the Scafells and half the Lakeland hills were startlingly clear. But not much sunshine. Indeed, for much of the afternoon, the only sunlit fells were Helvellyn and Dollywaggon, with the western slopes showing the only considerable snow on any of the tops. Clearly, there would be much more of it on their shadowed eastern slopes. Wetherlam, "the mountain of a hundred holes", had always been one of our favourite hills when, 22 years ago, I sadly scattered the ashes of my brother near the summit. The place of pilgrimage is a rock corner in a splendid situation with Little Langdale and the Brathay countryside, splashed with many glittering waters, immediately below and, six miles away to the north-west, the ramparts of the Scafells. By the cairn this time were a couple with their grandson, Daniel, aged nine, who had come over Great Carrs and Swirl How-with Wetherlam, the lad's first two-thousanders. We wished him a lifetime of mountains. To return we wandered down the south ridge and Lad Stones to the old quarry track, past old copper mine workings, and down the side of Tilberthwaite Gill. The waterfalls in the gill were impressive enough but I remembered a day 50 years ago when two of us, for the adventure, climbed down the ravine, with all the waterfalls, when the gill was in lively spate, coming ashore on the shingle at its foot like a couple of drowned rats. Another memory of Wetherlam, out of scores, is of a snow ascent when we broke through fog on to the summit to find the sun shining on a sea of cotton-wool mist covering the whole of Lakeland and, when we turned round, a perfect Brocken Spectre, seemingly only yards away, with a rare double "glory".

A Harry Griffin

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

AN EDITING ERROR led to the misspelling of the Catalan for "the day of the book" in an article and headline on Page II of our supplement to mark World Book Day, April 23. Llibre in El Diada del Llibre was reduced to Libre.

IN OUR obituary of Octavio Paz, Page 18, April 22, it was wrongly stated that Paz's only child's mother was his second wife, Marie-Jose Tramini. Helena Paz Garro's mother is the poet's first wife, the Mexican writer Elena Garro.

DR RICHARD LAWS, Birthdays, Page 18, April 23, ceased being the Master of St Edmund's College, Cambridge, in 1996. The master is now Professor R Brian Heap, who is also the foreign secretary of the Royal Society and the former director of the Babraham Institute, Cambridge.

IN A FEATURE about waste-paper bins in Space, a supplement to some southern editions of the Guardian, April 24, we attached some captions to the wrong bins. Caption 7 refers to picture 9 (cotton-and leather-trimmed bin from The Holding Company); caption 8 refers to picture 7 (recycled leather bin from Ocean); caption 9 refers to picture 8 (brushed-metal bin from Liberty).

AN ARTICLE on Page 8 of earlier editions of the Guardian, April 24, maintained that *Swindon "attracted Neolithic* settlers 30,000 years ago". That should have been Palaeolithic.

It is the policy of the Guardian to correct errors as soon as possible. Readers may contact the office of the Readers' Editor, Ian Mayes, by telephoning 0171 239 9589 between 11am and 5pm, Monday to Friday. Fax: 0171 239 9897. E-mail: reader@guardian.co.uk

Birthdays

Anouk Aimee, actress, 66; **Pik Botha**, South African politician, 66; **Darcy Bussell**, ballerina, 29; **Sheena Easton**, singer, 39; **Michael Fish**, weatherman, 54; **Jenny Harper**, gallery director, 48; **Coretta King**, civil rights campaigner, 71; **Jack Klugman**, actor, 77; **Kevin McNally**, actor, 43; **Nicholas Serota**, director, Tate Gallery, 52.

In Memoriam

SMART, Lorna. Died 27 April 1997. Lover of music and cricket, zealous civil servant and dear friend. Greatly missed by Marian and Tony.

Marriages

COOKE / MILLS. Susie Cooke, daughter of Tony and Eileen Cooke and Nic Mills, son of Andrew Mills and Ann Ingram, are pleased to announce their engagement and are looking forward to married life together. The wedding will take place on 23rd May 1998 in Devon.

■ To place your announcement telephone 0171 713 4567 or fax 0171 713 4129 between 9am and 3pm Mon-Fri

هكذا من الاصل

Huddleston

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer
Telephone: 0171-239-9610
Fax: 0171-833-4456

FinanceGuardian

Perils of new tech

BBC seeks to curb Murdoch

Plea for special Oftel powers

Simon Beavis
Media Business Editor

THE BBC is putting pressure on the Government to give emergency powers to the telecoms watchdog, Oftel, warning that, without them, consumers in the digital age could become hostages to big monopolistic companies.

The warning comes as some of the most powerful players in broadcasting and computing, including Rupert Murdoch and Bill Gates, have made it clear they aim to dominate the world of digital technology.

Ministers are being told consumers will be left with a narrow choice of services unless Oftel is given beefed-up powers to safeguard competition. The message is unlikely to be well received by the Government, which intends to move slowly in considering what changes are needed in the regulatory structure.

But Patrica Hodgson, the BBC's director of policy and planning, who is widely regarded as one of the corporation's most acute strategists, will warn today that the Government's approach is too slow.

She will tell an audience of industry executives and policy-makers at the UK Digital TV Launches forum in London that Britain cannot wait for a drawn-out review of the issues by Brussels before taking action. Instead, the Government should use legislation before Parliament to bolster the regulator.

Brussels is consulting on the implications for competition policy from the increasing convergence of broadcasting, telecoms and computers. The Culture Secretary, Chris Smith, has said the Government will not publish its green paper until the summer, so legislation could be a year or two away.

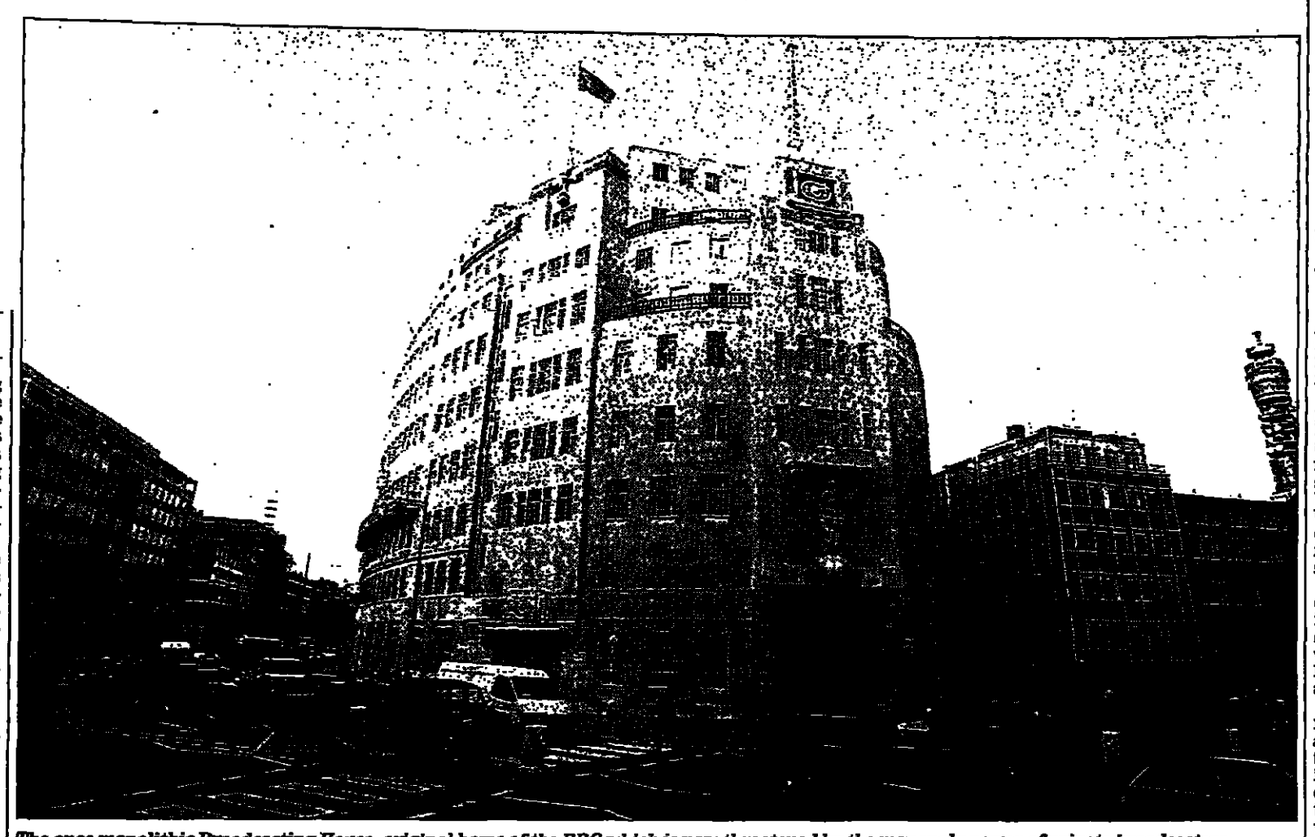
But Ms Hodgson will tell the conference: "We cannot wait for a full-scale convergence review, already mired in regulatory jostling and Euro-politics. Services are being launched now, this year and next."

She says ministers should use the competition bill and the utilities regulation review to introduce a simple but potent amendment to Oftel's powers, adding: "It needs those powers now, before monopolies are established."

She will argue that Oftel — already responsible for policing access systems such as decoders and programme guides — should also have authority over the software that controls them. The change would prevent strong companies dictating what equipment consumers should buy and what services they receive. "Britain must ensure Oftel has the powers it needs to keep gateways open for all new digital services," she says.

Her warning comes just over a month before BSkyB launches its first tentative move into digital satellite. This autumn the company, 40 per cent-owned by Mr Murdoch, will launch its big digital push and will see rival digital services launched on terrestrial and cable platforms.

At the same time, software manufacturers and telecoms companies are beginning to drive into the marketplace with rival pc-based digital offerings. Britsh Telecom is already in trials with Microsoft to test Internet services.



The once monolithic Broadcasting House, original home of the BBC which is now threatened by the monopoly power of private broadcasters

Net junk imperils users' privacy

DOOR-to-door salesman are being replaced by a far more persistent marketing force which has the ability to cross the threshold undetected, *writes Chris Barrie.*

Junk mail targeted at unsuspecting Net-users is "set to skyrocket", taking a hefty toll on individuals' *time and privacy, says a* report published today.

Worse, the trend will leave women vulnerable to "cyber-stalking" and children to pornography, as direct e-mail experts sell their addresses in bulk to anyone who wants them.

The report, sponsored by software firm Novell UK, points out that unwanted e-mails or "spams" already affect many people.

But Dominic Storey, Novell's director of technology, says the numbers will mushroom as digital television and telephone selling introduce many more households to the Net.

Pointing out that, even by visiting a website, users can unknowingly allow that site's operators access to e-mail addresses, Mr Storey says that there is a burgeoning trade in selling on addresses, which are then used for other companies' sales promotions.

More sinister, e-mail is a conduit for pyramid selling, religious sects' recruitment, computer viruses and sexual harassment.

The report, based on a survey of 800 people at work, suggests that 75 per cent of men and half of women had been "spammed", with three-quarters receiving five or more unwanted messages a day.

Novell argues that most organisations have yet to consider what policies to adopt to protect their staff. Private users, too, are still too free with their e-mail addresses, Mr Storey says.

Economics Notebook

Euro undermines our castle walls



Victor Keegan

AN ENGLISHMAN'S home is his castle — but it can also be a prison, as thousands of people nursing negative equity will never forget.

Housing can also be a prison for chancellors of the Exchequer, as many know to their cost. The macro-economic policy of the last Conservative government was blown apart by the housing boom of the late eighties, the consequences of which (economic and psychological) are still with us today.

In the late eighties, people cashed in the proceeds of rising house prices to finance a consumer boom — made worse by the then chancellor, Nigel Lawson, cutting taxes as well.

Mr Lawson did not feel any need to apologise for this action. He argued that lower taxes were necessary to boost incentives and that the purchasing power injected into the economy by lower taxes was small compared with that coming from equity withdrawal in the housing market. This is a bit like someone caught pouring oil on a fire justifying it on the grounds that the building is already ablaze.

Mr Lawson also announced the end of the anomaly whereby people living together could claim double tax relief on mortgages — but several months in advance, thereby prompting a boom on top of a boom as couples rushed to take out loans ahead of the deadline.

Housing was a make-or-break part of economic policy in earlier decades. Governments were often judged by how many new houses they built, to stimulate the economy and provide much-needed homes.

Today things have changed. Political parties are falling over themselves to find environmental reasons for *not* building the millions of new houses that demographers tell us must be ready by early in the next century.

YES, governments are still the prisoners of housing policy — it is just that the policy is changing shape. And a new disaster may soon hit us is the form of the single currency (which formally happens at the end of this week when the 11 member states signing up to monetary union will agree who goes in and at what exchange rates their currencies will converge).

Britain is not, thank goodness, joining in the first wave. But we will be affected by the profound — and as yet little understood — changes that will take place even if we stay out (like the euro infiltrating Britain as a Trojan horse currency). And if, as is likely, the Government is merely biding its time before entering, then we will eventually get the full monty.

Housing policy will receive two seismic shocks. The first is if we enter — or if our economy is run as though we were in. Interest rates, at present two percentage points above European levels, will come down. This is great news for mortgage holders but a headache for the Chancellor because it could threaten a rerun of the late eighties — with housing money fuelling another consumer boom.

Ireland, which is joining EMU this week, has just announced measures to stem its housing boom but they may be ineffectual in the face of an expected two-point cut in interest rates because of EMU. One earlier measure to stem the boom — an increase in stamp duty — had the opposite effect: it dried up the flow of properties coming on to the market and pushed prices even higher.

The second housing shock that Britain may receive from EMU is a lack of competitiveness induced by lower labour mobility because of our high rate of owner-occupation.

But hang on — isn't owner-occupation a basic freedom, enabling you to do what you like? In theory, yes, but in practice, no. It is not just sufferers from negative equity who are not mobile. Professor Andrew Oswald of Warwick University argues that high home ownership is a leading cause of Europe's high unemployment.

COUNTRIES with the most unemployment, such as Spain and Finland, have the highest proportion of home-owners, and those with the least joblessness (Switzerland and Holland) have thriving private rental markets. The reason is simple, he says: a high level of privately rented accommodation makes it easier to move to new jobs — a process that is ossified by owner-occupation and council tenancies.

According to Prof Oswald, once you allow for the effects of the cyclical recovery we are now in, Britain fits this pattern, because hardly anyone rents privately following the boom in home ownership.

People often forget that high home ownership has little to do with wealth but a lot to do with subsidies. Switzerland, one of the richest countries, has low owner-occupation while some very poor Third World countries have high ratios.

Even with the gradual withdrawal of mortgage relief, home ownership in the UK is pampered (no capital gains tax, no tax on imputed rent, low property taxes and 25-year loans at lowish interest rates). If one had been able to take out a 25-year loan on the same basis to invest in shares, it would have been a far better investment than buying a house.

If Britain's high rate of home ownership were to prevent the sort of labour mobility that monetary union needs to work, premature entry could prove disastrous. It is another reason to wish the EMU ship well when she is launched this week. And another reason to be thankful that we have not booked our tickets yet.

£480,000 divvy for Co-op boss

Julia Finch

THE man passed over for the top job at the Co-op Wholesale Society was given a £481,000 golden handshake — including a special *thank-you* payment of some £230,000.

Retail controller John Owen was one of two candidates for the job of CWS chief executive in November 1996 but lost out to Graham Melmoth. Mr Owen agreed to continue working with Mr Melmoth for a few months but then bowed out.

Details of his termination payment, the largest paid by the CWS, are contained in the organisation's annual report and accounts. Mr Owen was entitled to one year's salary, about £250,000, for loss of office, but a CWS spokesman said the additional £230,000 was "in recognition of his 38 years of service".

The CWS, which is owned by retail societies, 120 other co-operatives and half a million individual members, was the target of an audacious £1 billion takeover attempt last April.

Corporate financiers Andrew Regan and David Lyons launched their bid, with backing from Japanese bank Nomura, and promised a pay-out to the Co-op's owners. It emerged, however, that confidential Co-op documents had been circulated to groups which might have been potential buyers for parts of the CWS organisation.

The CWS reported profits of £92 million for 1997, up from £68 million a year earlier. The improvement was due to the Co-op Bank and £24 million of property investment gains.

Profits at the CWS's core retail business were down £5 million to £32 million after the stores chain paid out an extra £5 million to customers through its Dividend loyalty card.

Embarrassment for SmithKline chief as rival restates merger hopes

Glaxo returns to the fray

Julia Finch

SIGNS emerged at the weekend that Sir Richard Sykes, chairman of Glaxo Wellcome, has not yet given up hope of merging with rival SmithKline Beecham.

Weeks of claim and counter-claim about who was responsible for the collapse of what would have been the world's biggest corporate merger will come to a head tomorrow, when SmithKline chief Jan Leschly faces shareholders.

In an interview which appears to have been timed to cause maximum embarrassment to Mr Leschly, Sir Richard restated the logic behind the merger. "We had a superb chance to create an organisation that would have been perfectly placed for the next century," he said.

He heaped the blame for missing that chance on Mr Leschly and suggested it could still go ahead if the SmithKline chief executive were removed.

Hundreds of investors are expected to attend SmithKline's annual meeting at London's Barbican centre and Mr Leschly is likely to be given a rough ride. Apart from questions about why he failed to deliver a deal which he had promised would produce huge benefits, shareholders are expected to protest about his remuneration.

Since the deal collapsed it has emerged that Mr Leschly is sitting on share options worth some £60 million, in addition to his £2.4 million annual pay package. The American-style pay deal smashes all previous records. His contract also guarantees two years' money if SmithKline is taken over.

Pensions and Investment Research Consultancy, a group that campaigns against excessive remuneration and for high standards of boardroom behaviour, has advised shareholders to protest by abstaining from the vote to re-elect Mr Leschly and his deputy, Jean-Pierre Garnier, as directors.

They are encouraging shareholders to take the same action against Baroness Hooper, the non-executive who heads the company's remuneration committee.

In evidence to the Commons select committee on science and technology, Sir Richard said stitching together the top management ranks within the two organisations had proved a problem. He referred to senior managers as "sensitive flowers". But in an interview with the Sunday Times he reiterated the benefits of bringing the two companies together as "a merger of equals".



Sir Richard Sykes: 'Merger of equals' still on cards

Sir Richard said "circumstances would have to change" before any merger could be resurrected, implying that without Mr Leschly the deal could be done. He said he was willing to work alongside Mr Garnier.

To add to Mr Leschly's discomfort, one of Glaxo's non-executive directors in charge of executive pay has attacked the pay and the culture within the company.

Professor Arthur Li said: "It is not the way we think companies should be run." Glaxo, he said, followed the Cadbury code on executive pay and was "mindful of shareholder value".

Seagram knocks on EMI's door

This week

Julia Finch

EMI music group's future as an independent company will be in the spotlight again this week as Edgar Bronfman, president of the Canadian drinks and entertainment conglomerate Seagram, arrives in Britain.

Seagram has been mooted as a bidder for months, and Mr Bronfman is expected to have talks with EMI, which has produced a dismal share performance — down from 740p to 489p since its demerger from Thorn some 18 months ago — and issued a profit warning in January.

Elsewhere, shareholders are expected to take their annual opportunity to voice outrage about over-generous executive pay awards.

SmithKline Beecham's directors are likely to be the target of the most vocal criticism. But at Barclays' meeting on Tuesday investors are expected to make their feelings known about the £4 million handed out to Bill Harrison in the form of a golden hello, year's salary and golden good-bye. Mr Harrison, head of the bank's loss-making City offshoot, BZW, was in post for only 14 months before BZW was sold.

Banking stocks are likely to be in the limelight after weekend speculation that further mergers are in the pipeline, in the wake of tie-ups in the US. Reports suggested that the Dutch group ING is eyeing Credit Suisse, and that American Express is in talks with the US insurer AIG.

TODAY — Finals: Caldwell Investments, EIS. Interims: Debenhams, Spintab AB, Stratagem, Wardle Storeys, WPP.
TOMORROW — Finals: David Brown, S&U. Interims: Fibernet, Leeds Sporting, McCarthy & Stone.
WEDNESDAY — Finals: Chiroscience, Hiscox, Ryan Hotels, Shiloh. Interims: Tweefontein United Collieries, VTR.
THURSDAY — Interims: Arcadia.
FRIDAY — Interims: BAT Industries (Q1), Unilever.

BAe to buy £400m stake in Saab

Simon Beavis

THE pace of consolidation in the European defence industry is set to quicken with the news that British Aerospace — one of the most ardent campaigners for convergence — will take a strategic stake in Saab, the Swedish military aircraft manufacturer.

In a move which could come as early as this week, BAe is to announce its decision to spend £400 million on a 30 to 40 per cent stake in Saab, according to defence industry analysts.

The deal will be carried out as part of the public flotation of Saab shares by parent group Investor, which is controlled by the wealthy Wallenberg family. The deal will leave Investor in control of the company and BAe as the largest outside shareholder.

BAe has built a lucrative partnership with Saab, first through a manufacturing alliance and, since last year, in a joint-marketing agreement which puts Saab's advanced light fighter, the Gripen, in the same category on the world market as BAe's trainer and fighter aircraft.

BAe refused to comment on the proposed tie-up but observers see it as inevitable that the marketing relationship will develop into a more concrete corporate tie-up.

It is also widely regarded as a means for BAe to maintain the momentum of consolidation among European defence manufacturers.

Such a deal might help further Sweden's ambition to become involved politically in moves by Britain, France and Germany to restructure the European industry.

Plans to form a private-sector company for the civil aerospace and defence interests of BAe, Aérospatiale and Dassault of France, and Dasa of Germany have, however, become bogged down, not least because much of the French industry remains state-controlled.

● Volkswagen said last night it was preparing to outbid BMW for control of Rolls-Royce. VW's supervisory board said it had "a tempting offer", which City sources suggested could be as high as £400 million, compared with BMW's £340 million bid.

VW directors spoke of making a new bid after a Rolls-Royce Seraph was flown to their headquarters at the weekend. VW is reported to be willing to invest £2 billion in the luxury carmaker — double the amount on offer from BMW — and to want to raise annual production to 10,000 cars, 4,000 more than envisaged by BMW.

Yesterday, Rolls's chief executive, Graham Morris, saw "no reason" why BMW should not conclude a deal with Vickers by Thursday.

Rich man's club makes poor offer

Mark Atkinson
Economics Correspondent

WESTERN nations are to invite a handful of developing countries to talks aimed at drawing up new rules to govern international investment by multinational companies.

But many see what is being sold as a concession to the third world as a red herring, because the countries likely to join the discussions are unrepresentative of the developing world as a whole.

Negotiations over the Multilateral Agreement on Investment have been restricted to members of the Paris-based Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development — the "rich man's club".

The pact aims to establish rules on foreign investment; signatories to agreements will shed many of their rights to set rules for foreign investors.

The absence of developing nations at the talks has fuelled fears that the rights and interests of third world countries will be overlooked.

The annual OECD ministerial gathering on Tuesday will be told that the negotiating group is considering a proposal that eight non-member countries be made full participants in the discussions.

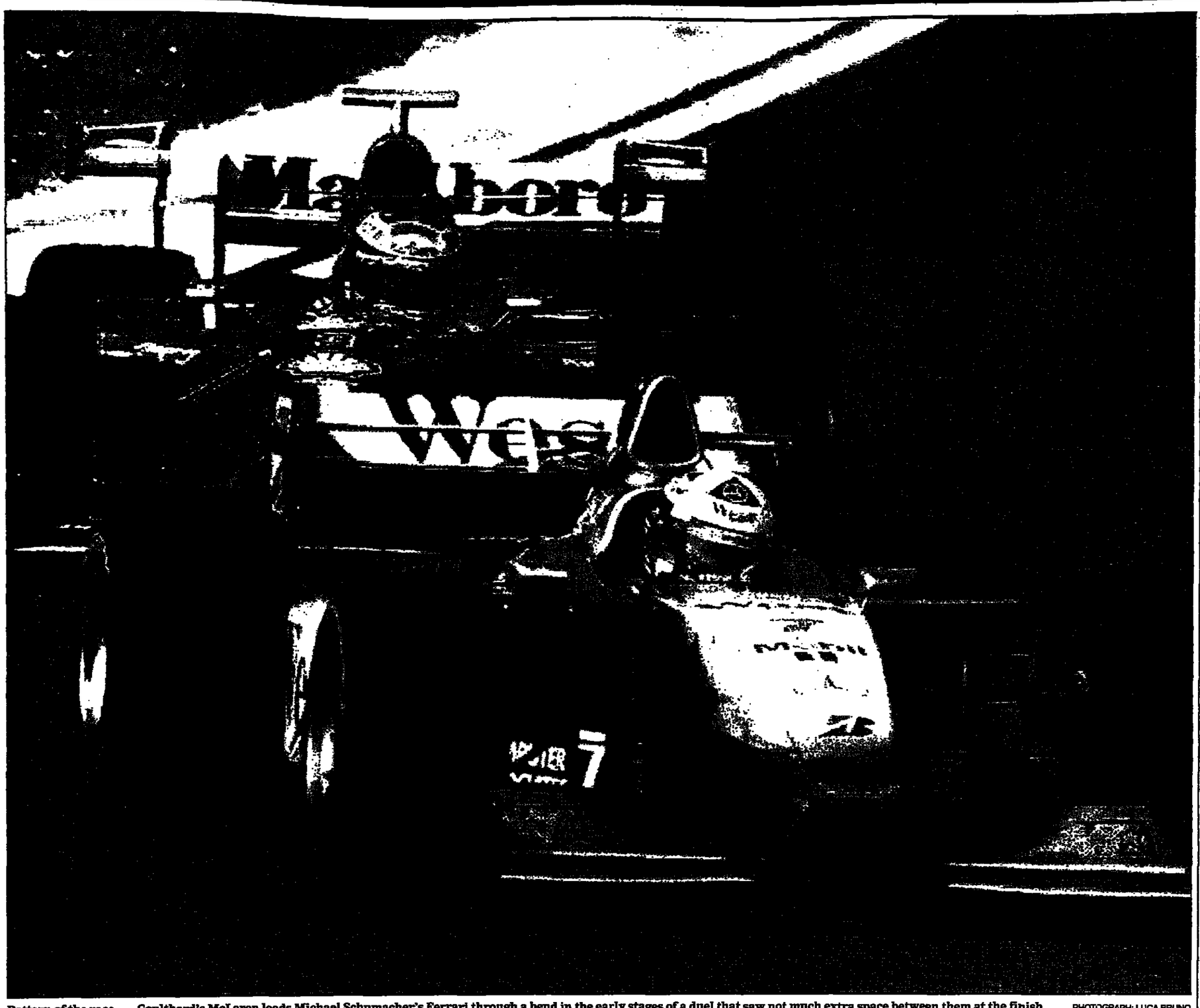
The potential participants are Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Hong Kong and the Slovak Republic, which are already observers at the talks, and Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, which are about to join in the same capacity.

TOURIST RATES — BANK SELLS

Australia 2.49	Germany 2.9196	Malaysia 6.30	Singapore 2.59
Austria 20.51	Greece 510.43	Malta 0.63	South Africa 8.20
Belgium 60.19	Hong Kong 12.55	Netherlands 3.26	Spain 246.39
Canada 2.33	India 66.11	New Zealand 2.90	Sweden 12.61
Cyprus 0.85	Ireland 1.157	Norway 12.13	Switzerland 2.40
Denmark 11.18	Israel 6.22	Portugal 298.13	Turkey 398,570
Finland 8.93	Italy 2,903	Saudi Arabia 6.14	USA 1.6306
France 9.76			

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San Marino Grand Prix



Pattern of the race . . . Coulthard's McLaren leads Michael Schumacher's Ferrari through a bend in the early stages of a duel that saw not much extra space between them at the finish PHOTOGRAPH: LUCA BRUNO

Coulthard cuts it cool and fine

Alan Henry at Imola on a McLaren win that restored confidence in the Scot and denied the two Ferraris a home celebration

DAVID Coulthard put his spat with Michael Schumacher in the previous race firmly *behind him* yesterday with a well-judged, tactical victory over the Ferrari team in the San Marino Grand Prix.

The 27-year-old Scot beat Schumacher to the chequered flag by only 4.5sec to deprive a fanatical 100,000-plus crowd of its first home victory since 1983.

With four of the season's 16 races completed, only six points now separate the leader Mika Hakkinen, who failed to finish yesterday, from Coulthard and Schumacher in second and third *places*.

Coulthard seemed to be taking it too easy, slackening off in the closing stages to conserve his McLaren-Mercedes even as Schumacher was closing on him.

In reality Coulthard's car *was suffering from an* overheated gearbox, a problem which had indirectly forced his team-mate Hakkinen to retire with a broken transmission when in second place and after only 17 of the race's 62 laps.

McLaren's managing director Ron Dennis periodically left his place on the pit wall to check the electronic telemetry system which was monitoring the problem, advising Coulthard to ease up and change gear as carefully as possible during the second half of the race.

"I wanted it run at a pace that wasn't too hard on the brakes or the engine, so I was just trying to maintain the gap to Michael," said Coulthard, unaware of the depth of the problem.

"I was perfectly comfortable to let that gap be reduced because I knew that I could have gone a little faster if necessary. I knew Mika had stopped but I didn't ask why because I didn't want to be worrying about it for the rest of the race."

During Saturday's hour-long qualifying session Coulthard worked hard to secure the seventh pole position of his career, Hakkinen qualifying alongside him to clinch the third all-McLaren front row this season.



Coulthard . . . nursed his car

Yet neither McLaren driver underestimated the challenge of Schumacher's Ferrari F300. Straining every sinew to make the best possible use of a more powerful V10 engine and a new aerodynamic package, the German driver qualified third, but Hakkinen blocked him out on the first corner and held him back in third place as the two McLarens led the field.

After Hakkinen's retirement Coulthard maintained his lead over Schumacher through his two scheduled refuelling stops, the Ferrari fleetingly closing to within two seconds before making its own second visit to the pits.

Third place fell to Eddie Irvine's Ferrari F400, although the Ulsterman was under constant pressure from Jacques Villeneuve's Williams FW20 and the reigning world champion finished only four seconds behind Schumacher's team-mate.

"At the start Jacques beat me off the line and he was quite quick at first, but then I was able to catch him easily," said Irvine. "Later I thought *he might catch me but I knew* he would not get past. My big problem again was my back, which goes into spasm after about five laps. It was uncomfortable and distracting."

Villeneuve lost crucial time during his first refuelling stop when the flap concealing the refuelling nozzle did not open automatically as intended, something experienced by many motorists in less frenzied circumstances.

"That probably cost Jacques a place on the podium," said Patrick Head, the Williams technical director. "He also lost more time at his second stop, when we had to cut a pipe to the refuelling nozzle. Some you win, some you lose."

At least Williams had the satisfaction of bringing both their cars home in the points, with Heinz-Harald Frentzen following Villeneuve across the line to claim fifth place ahead of Jean Alesi's Sauber-Ferrari.

Damon Hill had raised hopes in the Jordan-Honda camp by qualifying the revised longer-wheelbase car in seventh place but he ran into Alexander Wurz's slow-starting Benetton as the pack accelerated away from the start and had to come in for repairs at the end of the first lap.

Thereafter Hill raced doggedly in the midfield bunch but finally retired with engine trouble when in seventh place only four laps from the end.

Although the Jordan was much more competitive, Hill had hoped that the world *championship's return to* European tracks would improve his fortunes. Like Johnny Herbert, who again failed to finish after a puncture in his Sauber, he was to be sadly disappointed.

Full results from Imola

1	**David Coulthard** (GB) McLaren-Mercedes	Time: 1:34:24.598	Average speed: 120.624mph
2	**Michael Schumacher** (Germany) Ferrari	4.554 sec behind	
3	**Eddie Irvine** (GB) Ferrari	+51.776	
4	**Jacques Villeneuve** (Canada) Williams-Mecachrome	+54.590	
5	**Heinz-Harald Frentzen** (Germany) Williams-Mecachrome	+1:17.477	
6	**Jean Alesi** (France) Sauber-Petronas	1 lap	

Also classified

Not classified

Drivers' championship after four rounds

Constructors' championship

All right, Jacques, it's time to face the facts

James Mitchell on why Williams may *have bid arrivederci* to their crown already

EXACTLY a year ago, Heinz-Harald Frentzen and Williams were celebrating a victory in the San Marino Grand Prix, another routine win in a long line for the team that throughout the 1990s have become the standard by which all others are judged.

Jacques Villeneuve had retired that day after leading the race, and was already well on the way to winning his first World Championship. Yesterday, on the same Imola circuit, the best Villeneuve could manage was fourth place, with Frentzen behind him in fifth. There can be no better illustration of the problems afflicting the champions.

The atmosphere at Williams over the weekend had not been good but after the race there was a smile on the face of Patrick Head, the team's technical director. . Head hates nothing more than underachievement but he accepted, albeit grudgingly, that Williams had done about as well as they could have expected.

Williams's FW20 car has proved to be some way short of the level to which they have become accustomed, but Head is sure that his team made the most of the car here. There was just the small niggle that had it not been for problems with Villeneuve's refuelling hatch, the Canadian might have been able to stay ahead of Eddie Irvine and take the final place on the podium.

Villeneuve gave it a go in the closing laps but Irvine was able to keep him at bay. "We can't complain about the result," Head said. "But to be outpaced by Irvine shows us that the Ferrari is a better car than ours. We've just got to *make the car go faster.*"

That process has already started. Before Imola, Williams ran a private test session which confirmed the suspicion that there is a major problem with the design of the car's rear.

The test paid off in that the engineers discovered what they think will solve it, but the way they did so — by grafting the rear suspension of last year's model on to the new car — indicates the gravity of the situation.

The light at the end of the tunnel for Williams is that new parts are on the way to help reduce the instability that has afflicted their drivers this year, but they will certainly not all be ready in time for Barcelona in a fortnight's time. It is possible that none of them will be.

Williams undoubtedly have their backs to the wall but there is something of a Dunkirk spirit about this quintessentially English team. There is a perverse kind of satisfaction about the need to knuckle down and get on with the job.

"We'd rather be winning by half a minute," Head said, "but it is enjoyable. And it is very interesting to see how different people in the team react to it. Some are fighters but there are some chaps who bawl, say it's not fair and seem to want a teat stuck in their mouths. But when things get tough, you've got to fight for it."

Williams have too much strength in depth not to get back to winning ways, but it seems already that any chance Villeneuve had of retaining his title has all but slipped away.

Tennis

Apathy as Monégasques is underwhelmed by Moya

Stephen Bierley in Monte Carlo on a painful conclusion to a disappointing tournament

THE temporary grandstands for next month's Formula One Grand Prix are all but complete along the waterfront here and, even as yesterday's Monte Carlo Open final began, the scream of cars was already to be heard from the open windows of the Country Club as many tuned in to Imola.

In truth there was palpable apathy in the Centre Court air, despite the presence of a Frenchman, Cedric Pioline, as Spain's Carlos Moya took the title in straight sets, 6–3, 6–0, 7–5.

Perhaps languor was the word for it. The last vestiges of romance had disappeared on Friday night when, in the golden light of early evening, Boris Becker had lost to Alberto Berasategui. With Pete Sampras and Andre Agassi having departed by midweek, the hope had been that Becker might win his 50th title, and his first on clay, in the principality.

Three times previously the German had reached the final here and there was a huge hope that he would finally pull it off. This was based on little more than nostalgia, for Becker is very much a part-time player these days — as his quarter-final defeat by the Spaniard in three sets amply demonstrated.

This year Berasategui has been the Tour's great party-pooper. At the Australian Open he beat both the local hero Pat Rafter and Agassi. Less phlegmatic audiences than the Monégasques might have contemplated a lynching when he defeated Becker.

The little Spaniard with the wholly unorthodox grip had led Pioline 3–6, 6–0, 5–1 in Saturday's semi-final when the Frenchman, last year's beaten Wimbledon finalist, staged a remarkable comeback. It was to cost him dear in the final.

Moya, who beat the Dutchman Richard Krajicek on Saturday, met initial resistance yesterday but it quickly became clear Pioline was having problems with his right *arm. In the majority of the* change-overs the Frenchman sat with an ice-pack perched on his shoulder like Monty Python's Norwegian Blue.

Pioline, though, despite losing nine games in a row, was neither quite deceased nor nailed to his perch. He attempted to hammer through the bars of fatigue with a spirited revival in the third set during which breaks of serve were exchanged with the frequency of a women's match.

But the injury, never specified, prevented Pioline from *serving at full pace. As one* French observer put it later: "Cedric had a mental problem in his arm."

This was Pioline's 13th career final and the fact that he has won only two of them underlines the problems this gifted player has always had when it comes to Le Crunch.

Moya came to the forefront last year when he defeated Becker in the first round of the Australian Open and then, playing brilliant tennis, went on to reach his first and only Grand Slam final, where *he lost to Sampras.*

Today the clay-court circuit moves to Munich where Greg Rusedski is seeded No. 1 and Tim Henman No. 4. The ambition of both Britons, though, will be simply to win their opening match. And nobody should put money on it.



Moya . . . second title

هكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الاصل

All right Jacques it's time to face the facts

James Mitchell

Racing

Bianconi boost for the King

Graham Rock

KING OF KINGS has been cut from 4–1 to 7–2 by Hill's, who eased Xaar from 4–6 to 4–5, for the Sagitta 2,000 Guineas following the effortless victory of stable-mate Bianconi at Navan on Saturday.

The winner is the regular galloping companion of Aidan O'Brien's stable star, who has been pleasing in his preparation for the first Classic of the season at Newmarket next Saturday.

"The horse is very well and Michael Kinane will ride him," said O'Brien. "He handles soft ground, but his action suggests he would be even better if it dried out before the weekend."

The going at Newmarket is presently good to soft, with showers forecast through the week.

O'Brien intends to send over Shahtoush for Sunday's 1,000 Guineas. A jockey has yet to be booked for the filly, who won a minor event at The Curragh earlier in the season.

O'Brien added that King Of Kings's stable companion, Second Empire, who is disputing favouritism with Gulland for the Vodafone Derby, will make his seasonal reappearance in the Tetrarch Stakes at The Curragh on May 2 before being sent to Longchamp for the French 2,000 Guineas.

The Thresher Classic Trial at Sandown on Saturday, run on testing ground, went to Courteous, trained by Paul Cole for Fahd Salman. The winner outstayed his three rivals and is expected to go straight to Epsom.

Salman also owns Fleetwood, who had been working like a top-class colt at Newmarket. But Henry Cecil, his trainer, reported that Fleetwood had sustained a hairline fracture of a pastern and would be out of action until the autumn.

English raiders in Europe had little luck yesterday. Ian Balding's Trans Island was first past the post in the Premio Parioli, the Italian 2,000 Guineas, in Rome.

He crossed the line a length and a half ahead of the locally-trained Crisos Il Monaco, but had swerved into the whip 100 yards from the winning line, hampering the runner-up. Following an enquiry the first two places were reversed by the stewards, and jockey Kevin Darley was fined £640.

Sausalito Bay could finish only fourth for Balding behind Tajoun in the Prix de Barbeville at Longchamp, the four-length winner completing a Group-race treble for the Aga Khan, Alain Royer-Dupre and Gerald Mosse.

In the absence of Peintre Célèbre, Astarabad easily defeated the German-trained Que Belle by a length in the Prix Ganay, with John Dunlop's Taipan third.

Beaten less than two lengths, Taipan ran respectably in defeat. "We thought that they might not go a gallop and decided to make the running, but Pat (Eddery) said he didn't really enjoy it," Dunlop explained.

In a gallop at Dunlop's Arundel stable last Tuesday, Taipan had been swept aside by Haami, a 20–1 chance for the 2,000 Guineas.

Given the riding tactics at Longchamp, Taipan was not disgraced and Haami could well emerge as the best of the British-trained contenders against Xaar and King Of Kings.



On call . . . Adrian Maguire and Call It A Day (left) jump the last fence alongside Fine Thyne in the Whitbread ALLSPORT

Peintre Célèbre's career cut short

PEINTRE CELEBRE should have been galloping to a comfortable victory in the Prix Ganay at Longchamp yesterday. Instead, he was stood in his box at Chantilly, having sustained an injury to a tendon which ended his racing career, *writes Graham Rock*.

One of the best winners of the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, Peintre Célèbre looked set to triumph in the major middle-distance prizes this year, including the Coronation Cup, the Coral-Eclipse and a second Arc, but he will now be retired to stud at Coolmore, County Tipperary, which bought a half share in the Andre Fabre-trained horse before his impressive five-length defeat of Pilsudski at Longchamp in October.

Thoroughbreds are fragile, the grand pianos of the animal kingdom, and Alec Wildenstein, son of the champion's owner, Daniel, said: "It always seems to happen to the good horses." Also winner of the French Derby and the Grand Prix de Paris, Peintre Célèbre had brilliant finishing speed and should make a successful stallion. He travels to Ireland next week.

The news sent a frisson of disappointment through racing enthusiasts at Sandown on Saturday, but the crowd was lifted by the game victory of Call It A Day in the Whitbread Gold Cup.

Headed by Fine Thyne approaching the final fence, he rallied under a determined ride from Adrian Maguire to regain the lead on the run-in. It was the second valuable success in a week for David Nicholson and Maguire, who had won the Scottish Grand National with Baronet.

Nicholson, who said his victory on Mill House in the Whitbread 31 years earlier had been the highlight of his riding career, joined Stan Mellor and Josh Gifford as the only men both to have ridden and trained winners of Britain's longest-established sponsored race.

He hopes to persuade Call It A Day's owner, Jane Lane, to let him prepare the winner for the Martell Grand National.

Pontefract Jackpot card with form guide

	GRAHAM ROCK	TOP FORM
2.45	Executive Event	Executive Event
3.15	King's Hussar (nb)	King's Hussar
3.45	Highfield Fizz	All On
4.15	Queen's Insignia	Queen's Insignia (nap)
4.45	Double-J	Sue Me
5.15	Break The Rules	Premier Generation (nb)

Left-handed, undulating course of 2m with run-in of just over 2f. Premium on stamina.
Going: Good to soft, soft in places. ★ Denotes blinkers. ● Top form rated.
Draw: Low numbers favoured up to 1m.
Long distance travellers: Spring Marathon (3.45) Mrs N Dutfield, Devon 260 miles. Not Forgotten (3.45) R Hoad, E Sussex 241 miles. Shadirwan (3.45) Mrs A Perrett, W Sussex 228 miles. *Gunmaker (3.45), Charlie Chang (5.15) & Sajan (5.15) B Llewellyn, Mid Glamorgan 189 miles.*
Seven day winners: 3.45 Highfield Fizz; 4.45 Sue Me.
Blinkered first time: 4.15 Keen Alert. Visored: None.
Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J, Jumps.

2.45 EBF TOTE NOVICE STAKES 2YO
5f £3,838 (6 declared)

101 (1) 021 Aa-Youknowsomething (18) (D) M W Easterby 9-0 — T Lucas 88
102 (5) 01 Executive Event (9) (D) P Haslam 9-0 — C Lowther (3) ●98
103 (4) Asiana T Easterby 8-12 — K Fallon —
104 (2) Boldly Goes C Fairhurst 8-12 — R Cochrane —
105 (3) Prepositive Mrs J Ramsden 8-12 — J Fortune —
106 (6) 64 Calico Lady (27) W Kemp 8-7 — J Carroll 87

Betting: 11–4 Executive Event, 4–1 Aa-Youknowsomething, Asiana, 11–2 Calico Lady, 5–1 Prepositive, 6–1 Boldly Goes.

FORM GUIDE - Aa-Youknowsomething: Close up, challenged 2f out, led well inside final furlong, kept on well, beat Angie Baby a hd at Musselburgh 5f mdn auct, Gd-Sft. Executive Event: Made all, ran on well inside final furlong, beat Marmaros F-C 5l at Thirsk 5f claim, Gd-Sft. Calico Lady: Soon outpaced and driven along, stayed on approaching final furlong, 4th of 7, 7l behind Speedy James at Newcastle 5f mdn, Gd.

3.15 TOTE CREDIT SELLING STAKES 3YO
1m 4f £2,385 (7 declared)

201 (5) 0600-6 King's Hussar (28) R Johnson Houghton 8-12 — M Hillsmer ●90
202 (4) 500-00 Opportune (28) C A Smith 8-12 — V Slattery —
203 (2) 6 Outplacement (41) C Egerton 8-12 — C Lowther (3) —
204 (6) 00-640 Silver Hope (16) R Hollinshead 8-12 — K Fallon 82
205 (7) 006-05 Joli File (16) J Wainwright 8-7 — A McCarthy (3) —
206 (3) 0300-0 Ngaere Princess (27) W Kemp 8-7 — R Cochrane —
207 (1) 4-0650 Trakelor (27) R Hollinshead 8-7 — J Carroll —

Betting: 7–4 King's Hussar, 4–1 Outplacement, 11–2 Opportune, 7–1 Silver Hope, Ngaere Princess, Trakelor, 8–1 Joli File.

FORM GUIDE - King's Hussar: Never near to challenge, 8th of 15, 17l behind Easterell Hall at Folkestone 1m2f hcap, Gd. Opportune: Slowly into stride, always behind, tailed off, 15th of 17, well behind Northern Lass at Nottingham 1m2f sell hcap, Gd-Sft. Outplacement: Soon driven along, some headway 5f out, weakened over 2f out, 6th of 7, 21l behind State Approval at Southwell 1m3f sell, AW. Silver Hope: Behind from halfway, tailed off last of 8 behind Elhayq at Thirsk 1m4f mdn, Gd-Sft. Joli File: Mid-division, outpaced halfway, stayed on, no impression, 6th of 17, 21l behind Cinder Hills at Ripon 1m2f hcap, Sft. Ngaere Princess: Soon well outpaced and behind, 32l last of 14 behind White Heart at Newcastle 7f mdn, Gd. Trakelor: Dwelt, always in rear, 10th of 17, 25l behind Blue Desert at Nottingham 1m sell, Gd-Sft.

3.45 TOTE MARATHON HANDICAP
2m 5f 122yds £3,210 (15 declared)

301 (15) 2000-5 Shadirwan (20) Mrs A Perrett 7-9-10 — A Clark 85
302 (5) 00-015 Hillzah (23) (C) R Bastiman 10-9-8 — H Bastiman (5) —
303 (1) 30-323 All On (73) (CD) (BF) J Hetherton 7-8-13 — T Siddall (7) ●98
304 (3) /0005- Spring Marathon (J41) Mrs P Dutfield 8-8-9 — M Roberts —
305 (14) 22-051 Highfield Fizz (6) (5lb ex) (C) C Fairhurst 6-8-9 — R Cochrane 88
306 (10) 554-25 Golden Melody (8) M Heaton-Ellis 4-8-3 — R Ffrench 88
307 (12) 062-12 Shaikiyr (18) (BF) R Hollinshead 7-8-3 — A McCarthy (3) 87
308 (4) 00060/ Mr Christie (J9) Miss L Siddall 6-7-13 — F Norton —
309 (13) 1420-5 Tancred Mischief (26) (C) D Barker 7-7-13 — Jenny Benson (7) 83
310 (8) 0606-0 Not Forgotten (J14) R Hoad 4-7-10 — Dale Gibson ★ 85
311 (6) 6400-4 Black Ice Boy (J16) R Bastiman 7-7-10 — C Cogan (7) ★ 88
312 (2) 445/54 Daily Boy (18) (BF) T Easterby 6-7-10 — N Kennedy 81
313 (7) 53035- Ocean Breeze (J13) J Harriman 4-7-10 — Darren Moffatt (3) ★ 79
314 (9) -65506 Top Prize (18) M Brittain 10-7-10 — G Bardwell ★ 77
315 (11) 32/22- Gunmaker (444) B Llewellyn 9-7-10 — J Bramhill —

Betting: 5–1 Shaikiyr, 6–1 Highfield Fizz, 7–1 Black Ice Boy, Daily Boy, 8–1 Golden Melody, 10–1 Shadirwan, All On, Tancred Mischief, Ocean Breeze.

FORM GUIDE - Shadirwan: Headway 6f out, weakened over 4f out, 5th of 11, 9l behind Jucinda at Folkestone 1m7f hcap, Sft. Hillzah: Held up mid-division, hung right over 6f out, soon weakened, 5th of 11, 24l behind Signed And Sealed at W'hampton 2m hcap, AW. All On: Chased leaders, pushed along halfway, ridden over 2f out, one pace, 3rd of 12, 12l behind Glide Path at Southwell 2m hcap, AW. Spring Marathon: Behind final 5l, 5th of 7, 30l behind Media Star at Chepstow 2m2f hcap, Sft. Highfield Fizz: Headway on bit to challenge over 2f out, shaken up over 1f out, driven clear, beat Jamaican Flight 5l at Pontefract 2m1f hcap, Gd. Golden Melody: Lost place over 9f out, 5th of 9, 21l behind Ela Agapi Mou at Folkestone 1m7f hcap, Sft. Shaikiyr: Headway halfway, led over 1f out until inside final furlong, kept on, 2nd of 14, 3l behind Northern Motto, with Daily Boy (gave 4lb) 4th, btn 18l, Top Prize (rec 13lb) 8th, btn 35l, at Musselburgh 2m hcap, Gd-Sft. Black Ice Boy: Soon behind and pushed along, headway over 3f out, kept on, never nearer, 4th of 15, 10l behind Outset at Newcastle 2m hcap, Gd.

4.15 TOTE DUAL FORECAST LIMITED STAKES
1m £2,458 (12 declared)

401 (1) 4221-3 Legal Issue (10) (D) J Hetherton 6-9-10 — T Sprake 85
402 (5) 000-10 White Settler (7) (BF) Miss S Wilton 5-9-10 — S Whitworth 86
403 (9) /50-00 Daryabad (25) (D) R McGhin 6-9-8 — R Cochrane —
404 (8) 000-00 Distant King (11) G Kelly 5-9-8 — P Goode (7) —
405 (11) 0100- Keen Alert (315) (D) M Bell 4-9-8 — K Fallon ★ —
406 (10) 06000- Mr Bough (161) (D) D Morris 7-9-8 — Dane O'Neill —
407 (3) 400-00 Our People (28) (D) M Johnston 4-9-8 — M Roberts —
408 (6) 65100- Ten Past Six (344) M Wane 6-9-8 — J Carroll 87
409 (7) 240-22 Queen's Insignia (9) (D) D Arbuthnot 5-9-5 — C Rutter ●90
410 (12) 600- Frittox (247) M Tompkins 3-8-8 — D Biggs —
411 (2) 0000- Zillion (182) J W Payne 3-8-8 — A McGlone —
412 (4) 300-00 Turf Moor (7) J J O'Neill 3-8-5 — C Lowther (3) 86

Betting: 3–1 Queen's Insignia, 4–1 Legal Issue, 11–2 White Settler, Keen Alert, 8–1 Ten Past Six, 10–1 Mr Rough, Our People, Frittox, 14–1 Zillion

FORM GUIDE - Legal Issue: Raced wide, behind, headway 2f out, stayed on inside final furlong, 3rd of 18, 6l behind Three For A Pound at Thirsk 1m hcap, Gd-Sft. White Settler: Raced far side, prominent 4f, 9th of 20, 18l behind Gay Breeze at Nottingham 6f hcap, Sft. Distant King: Raced stands' side, soon outpaced, kept on final 2f, never dangerous, 7th of 14, 7l behind Bellazzino Boy at Ripon 5f app hcap, Sft. Keen Alert: Always in rear, 17th of 18, 31l behind *Chasetown Flyer at Windsor 1m hcap, Gd. Mr Bough: Headway under pressure halfway, soon lost place, 7th of 12, 23l* behind Democrat at Southwell 1m stakes, AW. Our People: Chased leaders until weakened final 4f, 11th of 16, 35l behind Night City at Hamilton 1m3f hcap, Hvy. Ten Past Six: Effort 3f out, weakened quickly, 9th of 13, 28l behind Flag Fen at Ripon 1m sell, Gd-Sft. Queen's Insignia: Raced wide, headway over 3f out, every chance inside final furlong, not quicken, 2nd of 14, 1½l behind Cashmere Lady at Thirsk 1m fls hcap, Gd-Sft. Frittox: Held up mid-division, behind final 2f, 15th of 16, 18l behind Belle de Nuit at Windsor 6f mdn auct, Gd-Fm.

4.45 TOTE BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP (SHOWCASE RACE)
6f £7,750 (17 declared)

501 (6) 326233 First Maite (23) (D) S Bowring 5-9-13 — J Weaver ★ 88
502 (17) 1050-0 Jawhari (31) D Nicholls 4-9-11 — Alex Greaves —
503 (13) 66-000 Delta Soleil (25) V Soane 6-9-9 — C Rutter 84
504 (2) 06550- Share Delight (281) D Nicholls 4-9-8 — P Goode (7) 85
505 (15) 300-04 Double-J (14) M Bottain 4-9-6 — J Carroll 88
506 (3) 3-2412 Mungo Park (5) (BF) Mrs J Ramsden 4-9-5 — J Fortune 87
507 (7) 011-01 Maile (18) (D) T Barron 5-9-4 — R Ffrench ★ 89
508 (12) 00040- French Grit (187) (CD) M Dods 6-9-4 — A Clark 84
509 (14) 024000 Gadge (19) (D) A Bailey 7-9-4 — D Wright 87
510 (4) 100-06 Smokey From Caplaw (14) (D) J J O'Neill 4-9-0 — C Lowther (3) 87
511 (1) 000-00 Pleading (14) (D) (BF) W Musson 5-8-13 — K Fallon —
512 (10) 0-6225 Bee Health Boy (6) (D) M W Easterby 5-8-12 — Dale Gibson ★ 87
513 (11) 000-00 Roan Lad (8) (D) J J Quinn 4-8-9 — J Lowe —
514 (5) 100401 Sue Me (6) (C) (D) D Nicholls 6-8-5 — A Nicholls (7) ★ ●89
515 (16) 065334 Statoyork (8) D Shaw 5-8-1 — A McCarthy (3) 87
516 (8) 04030- Nervous Rex (185) (D) D Nicholls 4-7-12 — F Norton 83
517 (9) 00-335 Unshaken (3) (BF) E Alston 4-7-10 — M Henry 86

Ladbrokes betting: 5–1 Sue Me, 6–1 Mungo Park, Maile, Pleading, 8–1 Bee Health Boy, 10–1 First Maite, 11–1 Double-J, 12–1 Gadge, 16–1 Unshaken 20–1 Delta Soleil, 25–1 bar
Coral betting: 5–1 Maile, 6–1 Mungo Park, Pleading, 13–2 Sue Me, 9–1 Bee Health Boy, 11–1 Double-J, First Maite, 12–1 Gadge, 14–1 Unshaken, 16–1 French Grit, Smokey From Caplaw, 20–1 Delta Soleil, Statoyork, 25–1 bar
Hill's betting: 5–1 Maile, 6–1 Sue Me, 13–2 Mungo Park, 7–1 Pleading, 9–1 Bee Health Boy, 11–1 Double-J, First Maite, 14–1 Gadge, 16–1 Unshaken, Nervous Rex, 20–1 Delta Soleil, French Grit, Jawhari, Smokey From Caplaw, Statoyork, 25–1 bar
Tote betting: 6–1 Maile, Sue Me, 7–1 Mungo Park, Pleading, 10–1 Bee Health Boy, First Maite, Unshaken, 12–1 Double-J, 16–1 Gadge, French Grit, Nervous Rex, 20–1 Delta Soleil, Jawhari, Statoyork, Smokey From Caplaw, 33–1 bar

FORM GUIDE - First Maite: Led until over 2f out, kept on same pace approaching final furlong, 3rd of 11, 6l behind Rambo Waltzer at Southwell 1m hcap, AW. Jawhari: Prominent far side 5f, tailed off 23rd of 24 behind Mozambique at Doncaster 1m hcap, Gd-Sft. Delta Soleil: Prominent, every chance over 2f out, hung left and weakened final furlong, *7th of 20, 10l behind Sleepless at Leicester 7f hcap, Sft. Double-J: Led stands' side, no chance with leaders far side* final 2f, 4th of 11, 13l behind Magic Mill, with Smokey From Caplaw (rec 5lb) further 6l away 6th, at Newcastle 7f hcap, Sft. Maile: Raced far side, chased leaders, led inside final furlong, beat Bee Health Boy (rec 1lb) 2l at Ripon 6f hcap, Sft. Pleading: Held up, some late headway, 11th of 24, 17l behind Mersad at Kempton 6f hcap, Sft. Sue Me: Hampered start, held up, headway over 1f out, ran on to lead close home, beat Mungo Park (gave 11lb) 1½l, with Bee Health Boy (levels) 5th, btn 6l, at Pontefract 5f app hcap, Gd-Sft. Statoyork: Prominent, every chance over 1f out, soon beaten, 4th of 10, 3¾l behind Ivory's Grab Hire at W'hampton 5f hcap, AW. Unshaken: With leaders, not quicken approaching final furlong, 2l 5th of 20 behind Birchwood Sun at Carlisle 6f hcap, Gd-Sft.

5.15 TOTE PLACEPOT HANDICAP
1m 2f £4,110 (16 declared)

601 (11) 3-6022 Premier Generation (8) (D) (BF) D Arbuthnot 5-9-13 — S Whitworth ●90
602 (1) 02122- Carburton (312) (D) (BF) J Glover 5-9-13 — J Fortune 89
603 (13) 520-51 Shaffishayes (9) (C) Mrs M Reveley 6-9-10 — A Culhane 84
604 (3) 400306 Break The Rules (7) (C) (D) D Nicholls 6-9-6 — R Cochrane 86
605 (6) 0000-1 No Cliches (32) (D) D Nicholls 5-9-7 — Alex Greaves 85
606 (14) 60001- Burundi (161) A Carroll 4-9-1 — M Tebbutt 86
607 (10) 21356/ Kings Cay (J521) T Caldwell 7-8-10 — J Carroll —
608 (15) 62000- Missile Toe (146) D Morris 5-8-9 — C Lowther (3) 85
609 (16) 0000-0 Yours In Sport (58) D Nicholls 4-8-9 — F Norton —
610 (7) 002-03 Impetus (18) J Hetherton 4-8-7 — T Sprake 82
611 (9) 33000- Monte Cavo (183) (D) M Brittain 7-8-7 — G Bardwell 89
612 (2) 066- Sajan (380) B Llewellyn 4-8-6 — S Drowne —
613 (4) 2500-4 One Life To Live (23) D Barker 5-8-1 — Jenny Benson (7) 87
614 (5) 00644- Advance East (J24) M Dods 6-8-0 — Dale Gibson 85
615 (12) 3005-0 Get A Life (66) M Brittain 5-7-10 — D Mernagh (7) 88
616 (8) 300-62 Charlie Chang (J34) B Llewellyn 5-7-10 — J Bramhill 79

Betting: 5–4 Premier Generation, 11–2 Shaffishayes, 7–1 Carburton, No Cliches, 8–1 Break The Rules, 10–1 Burundi, Missile Toe, 12–1 Impetus, Charlie Chang

FORM GUIDE - Premier Generation: Not clear run over 3f out, switched left, ran on, 2nd of 18, 2l behind Rutland Chantry at Newbury 1m2f hcap, Hvy. Carburton: Prominent, slipped entering straight, headway over 1f out, stayed on towards finish, 2nd of 8, sh hd behind Anak-Ku at Ripon 1m2f, Gd-Fm. Shaffishayes: Stayed on under pressure to lead 1f out, driven out, beat My Learned Friend 3l at Thirsk 1m4f, Gd-Sft. Break The Rules: Started slowly, headway 4f out, hard driven over 1f out, one pace, 6th of 16, 7l behind Mr Fortywinks at Nottingham 1m2f hcap, Sft. No Cliches: Led last strides, beat Dr Edgar a hd at Doncaster 1m2f hcap, Gd-Sft. Burundi: Shaken up to lead over 2f out, soon clear, easily, beat Greenspan 1¾l at Southwell 1m3f sell, AW. Impetus: Led after 1f to 3f out, one pace, 3rd of 4, 14l behind Dutch Lad at Musselburgh 1m4f mdn auct stks, Gd-Sft. Sajan: Always behind, tailed off final 5f, 32l last of 6 *behind Kallena at Chepstow 1m2f mdn, Sft. One Life To Live: Tracked leaders until weakened final 3f, 4th of 7, 29l* behind Touchez de Bois at Hamilton 1m3f mdn, Hvy. Advance East: Held up, headway over 2f out, ridden over 1f out, one pace, 4th of 13, 9l behind Schnozzle at Warwick 1m5f mdn hcap, Gd-Sft.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

Jockeys	1st	Runs	%	Level St	Trainers	1st	Runs	%	Level St
K Fallon	38	174	21.8	+83.28	Mrs J R Ramsden	35	191	18.3	+20.53
K Darley	26	197	13.2	-35.46	Mrs M Reveley	11	115	9.54	-81.98
L Dettori	22	100	22	+10.89	M Johnston	10	99	10.1	-33.27
J Fortune	18	170	10.6	-21.02	R Hollinshead	8	141	5.75	-79.00
Pat Eddery	16	43	37.2	+25.67	M H Tompkins	5	45	11.1	+6.50
W Ryan	14	67	20.9	-25.01	E J Alston	5	49	10.2	-18.00
J Weaver	14	123	11.4	-41.40	D Nicholls	5	65	7.72	-20.50

Southwell all-weather runners and riders

	GRAHAM ROCK	TOP FORM
2.30	Angelina	Bold King
3.00	Greenspan	Mister Aspecto
3.30	Waikiki Beach	Alpine Hideaway
4.00	Stately Favour (nap)	Stately Favour
4.30	Bodfari Anna	Zechariah
5.00	Miss All Alone	Stravsea

All-weather, Fibresand, left-handed track of 1¼m with 3f run-in. Separate spur provides straight 5f.
Going: Standard. ★ Denotes blinkers. ● Top form rated.
Draw: High best over 5f; low favoured in other races.
Long distance travellers: Waikiki Beach (3.30) G Moore, E Sussex 189 miles. Barrelbio (4.00) J J O'Neill, Cumbria 167 miles. Robellion (3.30) Mrs L Stubbs, Wilts 151 miles.
Seven day winners: None.
Blinkered first time: 4.30 Bodfari Anna; 5.00 Kustom Kit Kate. Visored: 5.00 Miss All Alone.
Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J, Jumps.

2.30 CHEDDAR MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES 3YO
1m £2,427 (8 declared)

1 (7) 2220- Bold King (254) J Hills 9-0 — M Hills ●89
2 (8) 0-0 Coded Message (32) J Glover 9-0 — S D Williams —
3 (4) 04 Envoy (26) C Thornton 9-0 — Dean McKeown 83
4 (6) 500- Grecian Prince (181) J G Smyth-Osbourne 9-0 — R Perham —
5 (3) 6000-0 Lawful Contract (28) R Hollinshead 9-0 — B Holland —
6 (2) 53-3 Angelina (28) Mrs A E Johnson 8-9 — J Weaver 88
7 (6) Elsa Dawn N Bycroft 8-9 — S Maloney —
8 (7) 2006- Gilderslewe (221) N Berry 8-9 — T Williams —

Betting: 4–5 Bold King, 9–2 Angelina, 11–2 Envoy, 8–1 Gilderslewe, 14–1 Lawful Contract, 20–1 Coded Message, 25–1 Grecian Prince, Elsa Dawn.

3.00 LEICESTER CLAIMING STAKES
1m 4f £2,406 (9 declared)

1 (8) 121223 Greenspan (35) (CD) W Muir 6-9-8 — J Wilkinson (5) 86
2 (6) 0-1113 Mister Aspecto (49) (C) (D) (BF) M Johnston 5-9-8 — D Holland ★ ●89
3 (1) 252215 Evezio Rufo (16) (CD) N Littmoden 6-9-2 — J Weaver ★ 83
4 (3) 142151 State Approval (21) (CD) Miss S Wilton 5-9-0 — C Carver (7) 85
5 (5) 05-620 Our Main Man (27) (CD) R Whitaker 8-8-12 — Dean McKeown 82
6 (7) 0000-0 Rival Bid (20) Mrs N Macauley 10-8-10 — P McCabe (3) —
7 (2) 436450 Ajdar (7) (CD) Mrs S Lamyman 7-8-7 — C Teague (5) 87
8 (4) 003105 Carroll's Marc (8) (CD) Pat Mitchell 10-8-5 — M Fenton 81
9 (9) 5-0050 Nicker (16) M Wane 4-8-5 — G Carter ★ —

Betting: 2–1 Mister Aspecto, 11–4 Greenspan, 4–1 State Approval, 6–1 Evezio Rufo, 9–1 Our Main Man, 14–1 Ajdar, Rival Bid, 16–1 Carroll's Marc, 25–1 Nicker

3.30 BRIE AMATEUR RIDERS' HANDICAP
1m £1,725 (16 declared)

1 (14) 634004 Kingchip Boy (7) (CD) M Ryan 9-11-7 — S Lavallin (5) 87
2 (2) 0230-0 Alpine Hideaway (31) (C) (D) M W Easterby 5-11-7 — K R O'Ryan (3) ●90
3 (16) 040203 Takhlid (23) (CD) D Chapman 7-11-6 — Miss R Clark 84
4 (10) 213151 Robellion (56) (C) (D) Mrs L Stubbs 7-11-6 — Miss S Newby-Vincent (5) 84
5 (3) -02143 Sea Spouse (28) (CD) (BF) M Blanshard 7-11-2 — R Forristal (7) 88
6 (8) 102036 Mutabadeth (9) (CD) D Shaw 4-11-1 — A Evans (5) ★ 84
7 (5) /06-56 The Stager (16) J Jenkins 6-10-11 — G Molan (7) 89
8 (13) -31266 Zaleta (47) (C) T Etherington 4-10-11 — E Babington (7) ★ —
9 (12) 322-20 Groom's Gold (39) P Harris 6-10-9 — T McCarthy 88
10 (7) 325434 Leigh Crofter (2) (C) J A Harris 9-10-9 — Mrs A Harris (7) ★ 83
11 (9) 362420 Pine Ridge Lad (6) (CD) J Eyre 8-10-9 — Miss Diana J Jones 88
12 (11) 200-35 Waikiki Beach (38) (D) G L Moore 7-10-9 — Mrs J Moore (3) —
13 (15) 31800- Anetta (172) (D) J A Harris 4-10-7 — Mrs M Morris (5) 86
14 (4) 0000-0 Statik (38) K Comerford 8-10-4 — A Kimber (7) —
15 (1) 054300 The Barnsley Belle (16) (C) J Eyre 5-10-3 — Miss D Allison (7) 87
16 (6) 60450- Desert Harvest (56) J Cullinan 6-9-11 — Miss S Walker (7) —

Betting: 5–1 Alpine Hideaway, 11–2 Robellion, 7–1 Sea Spouse, 8–1 Kingchip Boy, Takhlid, Mutabadeth, Groom's Gold, 10–1 The Barnsley Belle, 12–1 Waikiki Beach

4.00 WENSLEYDALE HANDICAP 3YO
6f £3,106 (14 declared)

1 (5) 116136 She's A Gem (18) (C) Mrs N Macauley 9-7 — P McCabe (3) 87
2 (3) (004- Byefield Star (163) J Berry 9-5 — G Carter 83
3 (13) 41010- Kayo (189) T Etherington 9-4 — D Holland 85
4 (8) 6001-2 Barrelbio (28) (BF) J J O'Neill 9-4 — K Darley 88
5 (9) 0-620 Sea Fig (9) T Barron 9-2 — Kimberley Hart (5) 87
6 (4) (150- Jack Roby (234) P Eccles 9-1 — Dean McKeown 83
7 (11) 4230-0 Swoosh (27) J Glover 9-0 — S D Williams 86
8 (2) 00000- Winston-Bo (292) R Hollinshead 8-12 — W Ryan 84
9 (6) 0-5100 Adrenalin (28) (CD) T Clement 8-9 — J Gotobed (7) 85
10 (12) 000- Pre Catelan (222) M Bell 8-5 — M Fenton —
11 (1) 34524- Heyborner (224) M W Easterby 8-4 — S Finnamore (7) ★ 87
12 (10) 323460 Pearly Queen (21) G Bravery 8-1 — D R McCabe 88
13 (7) 04-321 Stately Favour (21) (C) Miss J A Camacho 8-1 — L Charnock ●90
14 (14) 0000- Breakin Even (138) J Eyre 7-11 — T Williams ★ —

Betting: 9–2 Barrelbio, 11–2 She's A Gem, 7–1 Kayo, Sea Fig, Stately Favour, 8–1 Swoosh, 10–1 Pre Catelan, Pearly Queen, 14–1 Heyborner, Jack Roby

4.30 GLOUCESTER SELLING STAKES 2YO
5f £1,970 (11 declared)

1 (6) Risky Way B Rothwell 8-11 — D Harrison —
2 (8) 0 Redcroft (24) N Bycroft 8-11 — Dean McKeown —
3 (5) Shirley Not J Berry 8-11 — G Carter —
4 (7) 5 Zechariah (16) J Eyre 8-11 — T Williams ●90
5 (3) 0 Ablostela (28) N Tinkler 8-6 — Kim Tinkler —
6 (4) 05 Bodfari Anna (9) M W Easterby 8-6 — L Charnock ★ —
7 (9) Classmax R Fahey 8-6 — R Winston (5) —
8 (10) Fizzy Whizzy C Booth 8-6 — K Hodgson —
9 (11) 3 Mystic Lady (8) S C Williams 8-6 — D Holland —
10 (2) 0 Sound's Ace (10) D Shaw 8-6 — J Fanning —
11 (1) When D Cosgrove 8-6 — J Quinn —

Betting: 15–8 Shirley Not, 7–2 Sound's Ace, 11–2 Zechariah, 6–1 Bodfari Anna, Mystic Lady, 10–1 Risky Way

5.00 STILTON FILLIES' HANDICAP
7f £2,532 (14 declared)

1 (14) 0-2310 Kustom Kit Kate (7) S Bowring 9-7 — C Teague (5) ★ 86
2 (6) 6534-0 Frisky Lady (9) T Easterby 9-6 — R Winston (5) 84
3 (3) 08025- My Bet (222) (C) M W Easterby 9-4 — S Finnamore (7) 82
4 (13) 660-0 Maytong (26) J Berry 9-3 — P Roberts (5) 85
5 (9) 1650-0 Piccolo Cativo (115) (C) Mrs G Rees 9-3 — A Mackay 83
6 (11) 0060- Ella Magic (262) C Dwyer 9-1 — D R McCabe 88
7 (2) -22522 Stravsea (21) B Baugh 8-11 — K Lappin ●90
8 (5) 001-02 Touchanova (165) P D'Arcy 8-9 — J Quinn 87
9 (7) 00-0 Shambles (28) G Margarson 8-6 — P Robinson —
10 (8) 6406 Kelly's Kitty (28) M W Easterby 8-6 — L Charnock —
11 (1) 0-63 Miss All Alone (18) J Glover 8-4 — G Carter ★ 86
12 (4) -340F6 Ella Falls (8) Miss J Craze 8-2 — S Maloney —
13 (10) 36000- Silent Pride (198) M Usher 8-2 — J Fenwick (7) —
14 (12) 080000 Woodlands Pride (28) M Chapman 7-10 — P Doe (5) —

Betting: 7–2 Stravsea, 9–2 Kustom Kit Kate, 6–1 Frisky Lady, Touchanova, 8–1 Maytong, Ella Falls, 10–1 My Bet, Piccolo Cativo, 12–1 Miss All Alone, Silent Pride

COURSE SPECIALISTS

Jockeys	1st	Runs	%	Level St	Trainers	1st	Runs	%	Level St
J Weaver	46	271	17	+16.04	M Johnston	46	225	20.4	+10.66
L Charnock	34	358	9.5	-154.56	S R Bowring	44	361	12.2	-77.70
J Quinn	34	490	6.9	-270.34	J L Eyre	39	271	14.4	-51.72
D Holland	28	141	19.9	+28.76	R Hollinshead	36	393	9.24	-174.72
C Teague	28	269	10.4	-52.37	D W Chapman	34	397	8.64	-118.28
Dean McKeown	27	327	8.3	-187.42	Mrs N Macauley	32	294	10.9	+21.70
L Dettori	26	132	19.7	-37.43	T D Barron	27	155	17.4	+7.34

KEEPING TRACK

RACECALL

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Calls cost 50p per min at all times. TIS Plc, Avalon House, London EC2A 4PJ.

The Guardian INTERACTIVE

Trainer watch

Horses having their first run for a new trainer today — Pontefract: 4.45 Nervous Rex, W Muir to D Nicholls; Share Delight, B Hills to D Nicholls; 5.15 Gajan, J Neville to B Llewellyn. Southwell: 2.30 Gilderslewe, J W Watts to N Berry; 3.30 Anetta, Miss S Hall to J A Harris; 5.00 Piccolo Cativo, J Wilson to Mrs G Rees; Touchanova, G Margarson to P D'Arcy.

Rugby League

Super League

Huddersfield Giants 18 Sheffield Eagles 48

Eagles end run of defeats but face worries

Paul Fitzpatrick

SHEFFIELD EAGLES will go into Saturday's Challenge Cup final against Wigan with a much-needed victory behind them, but they did little here to suggest that one of the great upsets is about to take place.

To their credit the Eagles played much better with 12 men than they did with 13. Waisale Sovatabua, their Fijian full-back, was sent off *two minutes after half-time* for a high tackle and his departure proved to be the catalyst for a sharp improvement.

He should escape a ban at Thursday's disciplinary hearing, however, as it was by no means the worst offence of its type and his previous good conduct should help.

Their influential prop Dale Laughton was also placed on report for possible use of the elbow on Joe Berry, who left the field with an injured mouth. Laughton might be in more danger on Thursday.

Astonishingly, without Sovatabua the Eagles scored 32 points. Darren Turner made a claim for a Wembley place with two tries in four minutes and in the deluge that followed Keith Senior, Paul Carr, Nick Pinkney and Matt Crowther scored further touchdowns.

This flood of points could not, however, hide the shortcomings of the first half, when the Eagles looked capable of *falling to their* fourth straight league defeat.

Huddersfield led 14–4 at one stage with two tries from Danny Arnold and one from Craig Weston. Had Weston's kicking matched the rest of *his play the Eagles might* have been in trouble. Instead the visitors, for whom Crowther opened their account in the 14th minute, clawed their way back.

Tries from Carr and Michael Jackson helped them into a flattering half-time lead of 16–14 and, after Huddersfield's Phil Veivers went over from Arnold's pass, Turner made his Wembley challenge.

Huddersfield Giants: Arnold; Bella, Hanger, Loughlin, Barton; Weston, Orr; Harmon, Russell, Berry, Richards, Veivers, Sturm. **Substitutes:** Cook, Field, Schofield, P Jackson.
Sheffield Eagles: Sovatabua; Pinkney, Taewa, Senior, Crowther; Watson, Aston; Broadbent, Lawless, Laughton, Carr, Shaw, Wood. **Substitutes:** Turner, M Jackson, Doyle, Molloy.
Referee: S Ganson (St Helens).

Halifax go third

HALIFAX and St Helens both had home wins yesterday, though Saints' 36–14 victory over Warrington was in front of 10,000 fans at Anfield.

Halifax moved into third place in the Super League by defeating Castleford 29–16 at The Shay where Chris Chester continued his impressive start to the season with two tries, three goals and a drop goal.

The St Helens coach Shaun McRae said his side were close to their best form after a convincing display against Warrington. Sean Long scored two tries and Damien Smith made his first touchdown for Saints as they moved into the top five.

The champions Bradford Bulls recorded their third successive away win by holding off Hull 26–24 in front of another 10,000 crowd at The Boulevard.

The First Division leaders Wakefield had their loose-forward Matthew Fuller sent off after just five minutes but came away from Widnes with a 30–20 win. Fuller had already been shown the yellow card when he was dismissed for dissent.

Trinity *stay* two points clear of Hunslet who beat the bottom club Rochdale 47–6 at the South Leeds Stadium. Hunslet ran in eight tries and Rochdale had to battle on with 12 men after the *52nd-minute dismissal* of their centre Kenny Kerr for head-butting.

Keighley squeezed through 20–18 against Swinton at Cougar Park.

Hockey

Off-colour England hit a high five

Pat Rowley

ENGLAND beat Wales 5–3 at Milton Keynes yesterday to round off two weeks of low grade international competition. Rarely can they have played so badly and scored so *many goals*.

Barry Dancer, England's Australian coach, was more disappointed than surprised. His late appointment in December has forced England to build up to next month's *World Cup without tough* opposition because no one was prepared to arrange fixtures beforehand. He has also made England's six matches in 10 days more of an ordeal by combining them with heavy training.

The tiredness was evident on Saturday when England needed three goals in the last five minutes, including one in the last second, to draw 3–3 against the Lions, the England reserves who were one of four teams competing at Milton Keynes. They, like England, were too good for Wales and Scotland and finished second in the unofficial table on goal difference.

Yesterday England were two up *against Wales in no* time, Duncan Woods scoring with a mishit shot and Calum Giles flicking in a corner. But they again looked vulnerable in defence and were repeatedly opened up by Wales.

England added three goals against Kevin Priday, an unwell goalkeeper, through Mark Pearn, Jason Lee and Giles but Wales replied with goals by Simon Organ and two by Ian Hughes-Rowland.

Two *goals by Slough's* Jane Smith saw England beat the United States and qualify to play them again in the final of a quadrangular tournament at Springfield, Massachusetts, despite having their manager Sue Sutton and coach Maggie Souyave carded. Sutton was shown a red card for failing to control the coach, who refused to sit on the team bench and Souyave was sent *to the sin-bin* for most of the match.

Slough and Clifton made light of their England absentees to reach the Women's Cup final. Slough beat Loughborough Students 5–1 and Clifton beat the holders Hightown 4–1 with a hat-trick from Denise Marston-Smith.

Sport in brief

Sailing

The Whitbread campaign of Dennis Conner has received another major body-blow with the resignation "for personal reasons" of Andrew Cape, the navigator of Toshiba, *writes Bob Fisher*. He was not impressed when Chris Dickson, with whom he sailed in the 1993-4 race aboard Tokio, was hired as skipper, and his only smile came when Dickson quit after the first leg.

Cape was also known to be unhappy when Conner made the replacement skipper Paul Standbridge stand down for the Fort Lauderdale-Baltimore leg and introduced a local expert for the pilotage of the Chesapeake Bay. When this expert ran the boat aground, it was almost certainly the final straw for Cape.

American Football

The England Monarchs scored a hard-fought 14–10 victory over the Scottish Claymores at Birmingham's Alexander Stadium yesterday, advancing their record to 1–3 as the Claymores fell to 0–4, *writes Mike Carlson*. Touchdown passes of 36 and 37 yards from Josh La Rocca to Reggie Jones made the difference for England, who rallied twice before taking the lead for the first time this season at 14–10.

Badminton

The doubles gold of Simon *Archer and Chris Hunt on Sat*urday took England's medals tally to five at the European Championships, their best return for eight years, *writes Richard Jago in Sofia*. Archer and Hunt have probably never *played better than during* two successive victories over the top-seeded Danes Michael Sogaard and Jon Holst-Christensen and then the Swedes Peter Axelsson and Par-Gunnar Jonsson 15–3, 15–6 in the final.

Boxing

Roy Jones Jr, fighting for the first time in eight months, made quick work of Virgil Hill in Biloxi, Mississippi, on Saturday, stopping the former WBA light-heavyweight champion with one punch to the ribs after 70 seconds of the fourth round.

Snooker

Kelly Fisher caused a major upset by whitewashing the holder Karen Corr 5–0 in the World Ladies Championship final in Sheffield. The 19-year-old from Wakefield, without a win over the three-times world champion for 14 months, potted superbly to collect the £5,000 first prize.

FA Carling Premiership

Aston Villa (0) 1 Bolton Wanderers (2) 3

Bosnich
Ehiogu Southgate Staunton
Taylor Draper Hendrie
Joachim Wright
Milosevic Yorke
Taylor Blake
Thompson Sheridan Frandsen
Phillips Cox
Taggart Bergsson Fish
Branagan

Aston Villa *Subs* Scimeca (Staunton 32min), Grayson (Southgate 45), Collymore (Milosevic 58), Nelson, Oakes.
Bolton *Subs* Johansen (Frandsen 18), Fairclough (Fish 52), Giallanza (Taylor 89), Salako, Jaaskelainen. *Booked* Thompson.
Attendance 38,392 **Referee** D Elleray (Harrow-on-the-Hill)

Barnsley (0) 0 Arsenal (1) 2

Watson
Eaden Moses De Zeeuw Jones
Hendrie Tinkler Bullock Barnard
Fjortoft Marcelle
Anelka Bergkamp Overmars
Vieira Petit Platt
Winterburn Keown Adams Dixon
Seaman

Barnsley *Subs* Ward (Marcelle 51), Bosancic (Tinkler 65), Hendrie (Fjortoft 75), Liddell, Leese. *Booked* Ward.
Arsenal *Subs* Wreh (Anelka 75), Bould, Grimandi, Hughes, Lukic. *Booked* Petit, Winterburn.
Attendance 18,691 **Referee** M Riley (Leeds)

Blackburn Rovers (0) 0 Wimbledon (0) 0

Filan
Kenna Henchoz Broomes Valery
Ripley Sherwood Anderson Duff
Gallacher Sutton
Euell Cort
Kennedy Roberts Ardley Hughes
Thatcher Perry Blackwell Cunningham
Sullivan

Blackburn *Subs* Dahlin (Andersson 65), Pedersen, Croft, Beattie, Flowers.
Wimbledon *Subs* Ekoku (Euell 83), Fear (Hughes 87), Gayle, McAllister, Heald. *Booked* Roberts.
Attendance 24,848 **Referee** G Poll (Tring)

Chelsea (1) 4 Liverpool (1) 1

Kharine
Clarke Duberry Leboeuf Le Saux
Petrescu Newton Di Matteo Poyet
Zola M Hughes
Riedle Murphy
Leonhardsen McManaman
Ince Carragher
Bjornebye Babb Matteo Jones
Friedel

Chelsea *Subs* Flo (Zola 30), Charvet (Petrescu 76), Nicholls (Hughes 81), Hitchcock, Morris. Booked Leboeuf.
Liverpool *Subs* Berger (Murphy 72), McAteer (Leonhardsen 76), Thompson (Riedle 76), James, Kvarme. *Booked* Ince.
Attendance 34,639 **Referee** G Ashby (Worcester)

Derby County (0) 0 Leicester City (4) 4

Poom
Rowett Dailly Laursen
Carsley Van der Laan Robinson C Powell
Sturridge Baiano Wanchope
Marshall Heskey
Izzet Lennon Zagorakis
Guppy Savage
Walsh Elliott Kaamark
Keller

Derby *Subs* Delap (Baiano 45), Solis (Van der Laan 46), Burton (Powell 73), Hoult, Elliot. *Booked* Sturridge, Wanchope.
Leicester *Subs* Cottee (Walsh 73), Ullathorne (Guppy 78), Fenton (Zagorakis 82), Arphexad, Wilson.
Attendance 29,855 **Referee** G Willard (Worthing)

Everton (0) 1 Sheffield Wednesday (2) 3

Myhre
Short Bilic Tiler
Allen Hutchison McCann Ball
Barmby
Ferguson Madar
Booth Di Canio
Pembridge Hyde Magilton Whittingham
Atherton
Hinchcliffe Walker Thome
Pressman

Everton *Subs* Beagrie (Allen 46), Oster (Short 46), Watson (Tiler 85), Gerrard, Farrelly. *Booked* Ball.
Sheffield Wed *Subs* Briscoe (Magilton 59), Quinn (Hyde 90), Clarke, Humphreys, Mayrleb. *Sent Off* Booth, 82. *Booked* Magilton, Booth, Di Canio, Briscoe, Atherton.
Attendance 35,497 **Referee** G Barber (Pyrford)

Leeds United (2) 3 Coventry City (2) 3

Martyn
Kelly Hiden Wetherall Harte
Halle Bowyer Haaland Kewell
Hasselbaink Wallace
Huckerby Dublin
Whelan Soltvedt Boland Telfer
Hall Shaw Breen Nilsson
Ogrizovic

Leeds *Subs* Hopkin (Wallace 72), Robertson (Harte 88), Molenaar, McPhail, Beeney. *Booked* Bowyer, Wallace, Kelly.
Coventry *Subs* Williams (Hall 86), Moldovan, Strachan, Shilton, Hedman. *Booked* Whelan, Dublin, Hall.
Attendance 36,522 **Referee** M Reed (Birmingham)

Tottenham Hotspur (1) 2 Newcastle United (0) 0

Walker
Carr Vega Campbell Calderwood
Fox Anderton Berti
Ginola
Klinsmann Ferdinand
Shearer Andersson
Speed Batty Barton
Pistone Watson
Pearce Albert Dabizas
Given

Tottenham *Subs* Saib (Anderton 69), Baardsen, Armstrong, Scales, Clemence. *Booked* Ferdinand, Vega.
Newcastle *Subs* Gillespie (Albert 49), Ketsbaia (Gillespie 53), Hislop, Howey, Barnes. *Booked* Watson, Pistone
Attendance 35,847 **Referee** J Winter (Stockton-on-Tees)

West Ham United (1) 2 Southampton (1) 4

Lama
Potts Ferdinand Pearce
Impey Lampard Lomas Lazaridis
Berkovic
Sinclair Abou
Ostenstad Hirst
Oakley Palmer Gibbens Le Tissier
Benali Monkou Lundekvam Dodd
Jones

West Ham *Subs* Kitson (Potts 70), Forrest, Hodges, Mean, Berthe.
Southampton *Subs* Basham (Hirst 77), Moss, Richardson, Williams, Warner. *Booked* Ostenstad.
Attendance 25,878 **Referee** D Gallagher (Banbury)

Current form

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	DF	Last 6
Arsenal	6	0	0	16	2	18	32	WWWWWW
Aston Villa	5	0	1	14	7	15	32	LWWWWW
Chelsea	4	0	2	10	6	12	60	WWWLWL
Leeds	3	1	2	11	12	10	39	DWLWWL
Leicester	2	3	1	12	7	9	31	WDDWDL
Man Utd	2	3	1	8	5	9	64	DDWWLD
Tottenham	2	3	1	8	6	9	29	WDDLDW
Liverpool	2	3	1	11	12	9	44	LDWDWD
West Ham	2	2	2	8	8	8	56	LWDDLW
Coventry	1	4	1	8	8	7	60	DDDLDW
Sheff Wed	2	1	3	6	6	7	54	WLDLWL
Southampton	2	1	3	10	10	7	47	WLDLLW
Bolton	2	1	3	7	10	7	67	WLLWDL
Wimbledon	1	4	1	1	5	7	46	DLDWDD
Everton	1	3	2	6	9	6	45	LDDWDL
Crystal Palace	2	0	4	8	13	6	46	WLLLWL
Newcastle	1	2	3	5	9	5	49	LDWLDL
Barnsley	1	1	4	6	10	4	55	LDLWLL
Derby	1	1	4	5	9	4	48	LLWDLL
Blackburn	1	1	4	5	12	4	58	DLLLLW

DF = Difficulty factor gauges how hard team's last few games have been and expresses it as a percentage. The higher the figure the harder the matches, the lower the figure the easier the matches.

Referees table

	Games	Yell	Red	Ave
Reed	18	80	2	4.44
Willard	20	87	7	4.35
Rennie	18	75	5	4.17
Barber	21	87	6	4.14
Winter	18	71	2	3.94
Poll	20	76	6	3.80
Dunn	15	52	2	3.47
Elleray	18	61	4	3.39
Wilkie	21	69	2	3.29
Durkin	18	59	4	3.28
Riley	19	61	3	3.21
Bodenham	19	59	1	3.11
Barry	18	56	1	3.11
Alcock	18	56	1	3.11
Jones	19	53	2	2.79
Ashby	18	50	2	2.78
Gallagher	18	47	2	2.61
Lodge	19	49	2	2.58
Burge	18	46	4	2.50

Top supporters

	High	Low	Ave
Man Utd	55,306	55,008	55,164
Liverpool	44,532	34,705	40,193
Arsenal	38,205	37,324	38,036
Newcastle	36,783	36,289	36,670
Aston Villa	39,372	29,343	35,856
Everton	40,112	28,533	35,091
Leeds	39,952	26,791	34,445
Chelsea	34,690	29,075	33,308
Derby	30,251	25,625	29,022
Tottenham	35,847	26,097	28,763
Sheff Wed	33,427	21,087	26,403
West Ham	25,909	23,335	25,038
Blackburn	30,547	19,088	25,023
Bolton	25,000	22,703	24,347
Crystal Palace	26,186	14,410	22,218
Leicester	21,633	18,553	20,512
Coventry	23,054	15,900	19,683
Barnsley	18,692	17,102	18,429
Wimbledon	26,309	7,663	16,157
Southampton	16,255	14,815	15,157

FA Carling Premiership

		P	Home W	D	L	F	A	Away W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Forthcoming fixtures
Arsenal	◄	34	13	2	2	38	10	8	7	2	25	18	35	72	29.4 Derby (h); 3.5 Everton (h); 6.5 Liverpool (a); 10.5 Aston Villa (a).
Man Utd	◄	35	12	4	2	39	9	8	4	5	26	17	39	68	27.4 Crystal Palace (a); 4.5 Leeds (h); 10.5 Barnsley (a).
Chelsea	▲	35	12	2	3	35	13	7	1	10	33	26	29	60	29.4 Blackburn (h); 2.5 Newcastle (a); 10.5 Bolton (h).
Liverpool	▼	35	11	2	4	33	16	5	9	4	26	25	18	59	2.5 West Ham (h); 6.5 Arsenal (h); 10.5 Derby (a).
Leeds	◄	36	9	4	5	30	20	8	3	7	26	22	14	58	4.5 Man Utd (a); 10.5 Wimbledon (h).
Blackburn	▲	35	10	4	4	39	26	4	6	7	16	24	5	52	29.4 Chelsea (a); 2.5 Coventry (a); 10.5 Newcastle (h).
West Ham	▼	35	12	4	2	36	15	3	3	11	13	31	3	52	2.5 Liverpool (a); 5.5 Crystal Palace (a); 10.5 Leicester (h).
Aston Villa	◄	36	8	3	7	25	24	7	3	8	20	23	-2	51	2.5 Sheff Wed (a); 10.5 Arsenal (h).
Leicester	▲	35	5	9	3	20	15	7	4	7	27	22	10	49	29.4 Newcastle (h); 2.5 Barnsley (h); 10.5 West Ham (a).
Derby	▼	35	11	3	4	32	18	3	4	10	17	30	1	49	29.4 Arsenal (a); 2.5 Southampton (a); 10.5 Liverpool (h).
Coventry	▲	35	7	8	2	24	17	4	6	8	19	26	0	47	29.4 Wimbledon (h); 2.5 Blackburn (h); 10.5 Everton (a).
Southamptn	▲	36	10	1	7	28	21	4	4	10	21	31	-3	47	2.5 Derby (h); 10.5 Tottenham (a).
Sheff Wed	▲	36	9	5	4	29	23	3	3	12	22	40	-12	44	2.5 Aston Villa (h); 10.5 Crystal Palace (a).
Wimbledon	▼	35	5	6	7	16	19	5	6	6	15	20	-8	42	29.4 Coventry (a); 2.5 Tottenham (h); 10.5 Leeds (a).
Newcastle	◄	35	7	5	6	19	19	3	5	9	13	23	-10	40	29.4 Leicester (a); 2.5 Chelsea (h); 10.5 Blackburn (a).
Tottenham	▲	36	7	7	4	22	21	3	3	12	15	32	-16	40	2.5 Wimbledon (a); 10.5 Southampton (h).
Everton	▼	36	7	4	7	24	26	2	8	8	16	25	-11	39	3.5 Arsenal (a); 10.5 Coventry (h).
Bolton	▲	36	6	8	4	20	20	2	5	11	16	37	-21	37	2.5 Crystal Palace (h); 10.5 Chelsea (a).
Barnsley	▼	36	7	4	7	25	33	3	1	14	12	46	-42	35	2.5 Leicester (a); 10.5 Man Utd (h).
C Palace	◄	34	1	4	11	11	33	6	4	8	20	27	-29	29	27.4 Man Utd (h); 2.5 Bolton (a); 5.5 West Ham (h); 10.5 Sheff Wed (h).

Nationwide League

FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Notts Forest	45	28	9	8	81	41	93
Sunderland	44	25	12	7	84	47	87
Charlton	45	26	9	10	80	49	87
Middlesbrough	44	26	9	9	72	39	87
Ipswich	44	21	14	9	72	41	77
Sheff Utd	43	19	16	8	65	48	73
Birmingham	45	19	16	10	60	35	73
Wolverhampton	44	18	10	16	55	50	64
Stockport	45	18	8	19	70	69	62
West Brom	45	16	12	17	49	55	60
Oxford Utd	45	16	10	19	58	60	58
Bradford C	45	14	15	16	45	56	57
Crewe	44	17	5	22	54	61	56
Huddersfield	45	14	11	20	50	69	53
Norwich	45	13	13	19	51	69	52
Tranmere	44	13	13	18	49	53	52
Swindon	45	14	10	21	41	71	52
QPR	45	10	19	16	51	62	49
Bury	45	10	19	16	41	58	49
Port Vale	45	12	10	23	52	66	46
Portsmouth	45	12	10	23	48	62	46
Stoke	45	11	13	21	42	69	46
Man City	45	11	12	22	51	55	45
Reading	45	11	9	25	39	77	42

Bury (0)0 **Ipswich** (0)1
Stockwell 75
Bury Kiely, Woodward, Small (Swailes 56), Daws, Lucketti, Butler, Ellis, Matthews (Rigby 65), Swan (Jemson 72), Johnrose, Armstrong. **Ipswich Town** Wright, Stockwell, Taricco, Dyer, Venus, Cundy, Clapham, Holland, Johnson, Mathie (Sonner 80), Petta (Scowcroft 48). Sub (not used): Uhlenbeek.
Att: 7,830 **Ref:** G Laws (Whitley Bay).

Charlton (1)2 **Tranmere** (0)0
Mendonca 11, 63 (pens)
Charlton Athletic Ilic, Mills, Bowen, Jones (Brown 71), Rufus, Youds, Newton (Lisbie 78), Kinsella, Bright, Mendonca, Heaney (Balmer 29).
Tranmere Rovers Simonsen, Kubicki, Thompson, McGreal, Hill, Irons (Morrissey 54), Mahon (L Jones 54), Mellon, G Jones, O'Brien, Parkinson. Sub (not used): Morgan.
Att: 15,393. **Ref:** P Rejer (Tipton).

Crewe (4)5 **Bradford** (0)0
Anthrobus 20
Street 26
Little 30, 39, 65
Crewe Alexandra Bankole, Unsworth, Smith, Lightfoot (Wright 27), Walton, Charnock, Garvey, Johnson, Anthrobus, Little (Rivers 82), Street (Lunt 82).
Bradford City Walsh, McAnespie, Jacobs, Ramage, Sinnott, O'Brien, Lawrence, Murray (Bolland 68), Steiner (Grant 34), Edinho (Davies 68), Blake.
Att: 5,054 **Ref:** D Orr (Iver)

Man City (1)2 **Q.P.R.** (2)2
Kinkladze 1 Sheron 5
Bradbury 48 Pollock 21 (og)
Manchester City Margetson, Edghill, Horlock, Brannan (Russell 86), Symons, Vaughan, Whitley, Pollock (Bishop 84), Goater, Kinkladze (Dickov 73), Bradbury.
Queens Park Rangers Harper, Bardsley, Barraclough, Jones, Maddix, Ruddock (Heinola 70), Yates, Quashie, Sheron (Rose 46), Gallen, Slade (Peacock 79).
Att: 32,040. **Ref:** K A Leach (Wolverhampton).

Norwich (2)5 **Swindon** (0)0
Llewellyn 16
Jackson 34
Roberts 51
Bellamy 68
Fenn 76
Norwich City Marshall, Sutch, Fuglestad, Milligan (Carey 40), Scott, Jackson, Adams, Bellamy (Coote 79), Roberts, Fenn, Llewellyn (Polston 87).
Swindon Town Digby, Kerslake, Davis, Taylor, Bullock, Borrows, Walters, Watson, Onuora, Ndah (Cowe 45), Robinson (McAreavey 69). Sub (not used): McDonald.
Att: 18,443. **Ref:** T Heilbron (Newton Aycliffe).

Nottm For (0)1 **Reading** (0)0
Bart-Williams 67
Nottm Forest Beasant, Bonalair, Rogers, Cooper, Chettle (Hjelde 45), Johnson, Stone, Gemmill, Van Hooijdonk, Campbell (Woan 45), Bart-Williams. Sub (not used): Pascolo.
Reading Howie, Bernal, Gray, Parkinson, Primus, O'Neill, Lovell, Caskey, McIntyre (Fleck 31), Crawford, Lambert, Fleck (Brayson 74). Sub (not used): Swales.
Reading relegated to Second Division.
Att: 29,302 **Ref:** G B Frankland (Middlesbrough).

Oxford (0)0 **Birmingham** (0)2
Ford 73 (og)
Furlong 85
Oxford United Whitehead, Robinson, Marsh, Gray, Davis, Ford, Murphy (Banger 65), Smith, Francis, Powell (Cook 71), Beauchamp. Sub (not used): Rose.
Birmingham City Bennett, Gill (Purse 69), Charlton, Bruce, Johnson, Marsden, McCarthy, O'Connor (Robinson 42), Adebola, Hughes (N'Dlovu 69), Furlong.
Att: 8,678 **Ref:** R Styles (Waterlooville).

Portsmth (1)3 **Huddersfld** (0)0
Pethick 27
Thomson 60
Durnin 70
Portsmouth Flahavan, Pethick, Robinson, Hillier, Whitbread, Awford, Vlachos (Allen 81), Igoe, Svensson, Durnin, Thomson. Subs (not used): Hall, Carter.
Huddersfield Town Harper, Phillips, Edmondson, Dyson, Collins, Richardson (Heary 70), Baldry (Lawson 65), Horne, Stewart, Barnes, Johnson (Nielsen 64).
Att: 14,313. **Ref:** M Fletcher (Warley).

Sheff Utd (1)2 **W.B.A.** (1)4
Stuart 9 (pen) Hunt 30
Marcelo 89 Hughes 65, 78
Kilbane 72
Sheffield United Kelly, Borbokis, Quinn, Wilder, Nilsen (Devlin 46), Hamilton, Saunders, Marker, Dellas (Woodhouse 57), Marcelo, Stuart. Sub (not used): O'Connor.
West Bromwich Albion Crichton, McDermott, Van Blerk, Flynn, Murphy, Burgess, Quinn (Sneekes 74), Nicol, Hunt, Hughes (Quailey 84), Kilbane (Potter 84).
Att: 21,248. **Ref:** M E Pierce (Portsmouth)

Sunderland (1)3 **Stoke** (0)0
Williams 6
Phillips 54, 88
Sunderland Perez, Holloway, Gray, Clark, Craddock, Williams, Summerbee, Ball, Quinn (Dichio 88), Phillips, Johnston. Subs (not used): Bridges, Rae.
Stoke City Southall, Pickering, Tiatto (Holsgrove 39), Sigurdsson, Tweed, Keen, Forsyth (Whittle 80), Wallace, Lightbourne (Thorne 73). Crowe, Heath.
Att: 41,214. **Ref:** T Jones (Barrow-in-Furness).

Wolves (2)3 **Stockport** (1)4
Atkins 45 Cooper 40, 83 (2 pens)
Keane 59, 5 Byrne 57, 88
Wolverhampton Wanderers Segers, Muscat, Naylor, Atkins, Emblen, Curle (Slater 84), Goodman, Simpson (Robinson 75), Bull, Keane, Osborn. Sub (not used): Claridge.
Stockport County Nixon, Connelly, Woodthorpe (Searle 58), Byrne, Flynn, McIntosh, Cook (Phillips 75), Wallwork, Angell, Wilbraham (Grant 87), Cooper.
Att: 22,452. **Ref:** R D Furnandiz (Doncaster)

Leading goalscorers (total): **34** Van Hooijdonk (Nottm Forest). **31** Phillips (Sunderland). **28** Johnson (Ipswich). **25** Mendonca (Charlton). **22** Campbell (Nottm Forest); Angell (Stockport). **20** Armstrong (Middlesbrough). **19** Goater (Man City); Furlong (Birmingham); Beauchamp (Oxford Utd). **16** Stewart (Huddersfield); Merson (Middlesbrough). **15** Beck (Middlesbrough); Ellis (Bury); Hay (Swindon).

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE Premier Division: Ards 0 Ballymena 2; Glentoran 1 Crusaders 1; Linfield 2 Glenavon 0; Omagh Tn 1 Coleraine 3; Portadown 1 Cliftonville 2. **Division One:** Bangor 1 Newry 2; Distillery 1 Ballyclare 5; Larne 2 Dungannon Swifts 2; Limavady Utd 1 Carrick 0.

POOLS CHECK: Half-time Score draws (total 10) 4, 6, 9, 16, 21, 22, 29, 33, 34, 43. **No-score draws** (18). 3, 9, 14, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 38, 40, 41, 42, 45, 47, 48. **Full-time Score draws** (9) 6, 12, 21, 29, 31, 32, 33, 34, 37. **No-score draws** (6). 3, 27, 29, 38, 40, 47.

SECOND DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bristol City	45	25	10	10	68	37	85
Watford	44	22	16	6	63	39	82
Grimsby	45	19	15	11	55	35	72
Fulham	45	20	10	15	59	41	70
Northampton	45	18	16	11	52	37	70
Gillingham	45	18	12	14	52	47	66
Bristol Rovers	45	19	10	16	68	63	67
Wrexham	45	17	16	12	52	50	67
Chesterfield	45	16	16	13	45	43	64
Bournemouth	44	17	12	15	54	49	63
Wigan	45	17	10	18	64	66	61
Blackpool	45	17	10	18	58	66	61
York	45	14	18	13	52	58	60
Oldham	44	14	15	15	57	51	57
Wycombe	45	13	18	14	50	53	57
Preston	45	14	14	17	54	55	56
Millwall	45	14	13	18	42	52	55
Luton	45	13	16	17	57	62	54
Walsall	45	14	12	19	43	51	54
Brentford	45	11	17	17	49	69	50
Plymouth	45	12	13	20	54	68	49
Burnley	44	12	12	20	50	61	48
Carlisle	45	12	8	25	56	70	44
Southend	45	11	10	24	46	78	43

Blackpool (0)1 **Bristol R** (0)0
Brabin 68
Blackpool Banks, Bryan, Hills, Thompson, Carlisle, Hughes, Philpott, Clarkson, Taylor, Brabin, Preece. Subs (not used): Bent, Robinson, Conroy.
Bristol Rovers Jones, Pritchard, Lockwood, Holloway (Penrice 74), Foster, Tillson, Zabek, Ramasut, Beadle, Cureton, Hayles. Subs (not used): Perry, Bennett.
Att: 7,057. **Ref:** F G Stretton (Nottingham).

Bournemth (0)2 **Burnley** (0)1
Robinson 58 (pen) Matthew 72 (pen)
Fletcher 81
AFC Bournemouth Glass, Rolling, Vincent (Brissett 73), Howe, Cox, Bailey, Beardsmore, Robinson, Stein (O'Neill 73), Fletcher, Warren. Sub (not used): Dean.
Burnley Woods, Weller, Winstanley, Brass, Moore, Little, Waddle, Ford, Cooke, Robertson (Eastwood 83), Matthew. Subs (not used): Vinnicombe, Hoyland.
Att: 6,527. **Ref:** D R Crick (Worcester Park).

Brentford (1)2 **Luton** (1)2
Scott 22 Marshall 13
Hutchings 80 Allen 59
Brentford Dearden, Hutchings, Watson, Cullip, Bates, Hogg, Bianey, Cockerill (Dennis 69), Scott, Aspinall (Oatway 83), Thompson (Rapley 83).
Luton Town Davis, Alexander, Thomas, Waddock, Davies, White, Evers, McLaren (Spring 87), Oldfield, Allen, Marshall (Douglas 16), Douglas (Doherty 82).
Att: 6,595. **Ref:** M R Halsey (Welwyn Garden City).

Bristol City (1)2 **Walsall** (1)1
Owers 3 Tholot 23
Tinnion 80
Bristol City Naylor, Locke, Bell, Goodridge (Hewlett 84), Paterson, Carey, Owers, Doherty, McCarthy, Cramb (Murray 67), Tinnion. Sub (not used): Jordan.
Walsall Walker, Evans, Marsh, Viveash, Roper, Thomas (Platt 87), Ricketts, Keister, Tholot, Porter, Hodge. Subs (not used): Ryder, Eydelie.
Att: 15,059. **Ref:** S W Mathieson (Stockport).

Carlisle (1)1 **York** (0)2
Smart 35 Poulon 63
McMillan 84
Carlisle United Caig, Lithurd, Hopper (Milligan 58), Prokas, Varty, Foster, Anthony, Doble (McAlindon 58), Stevens, Smart, Wright. Sub (not used): Hughes.
York City Warrington, McMillan, Thompson, Bushell (Himsworth 75), Jones, Tinkler, Poulon, Jordan, Rowe, Cresswell (Tolson 60), Hall.
Carlisle relegated to Third Division. Sub (not used): Reed.
Att: 5,897. **Ref:** E K Wolstenholme (Blackburn).

Northmptn (0)1 **Fulham** (0)0
Peer 58
Northampton Town Woodman, Clarkson, Frain, Sampson, Warburton, Hunt, Peer, Dozzell, Seal (Gayle 75), Freestone, Hill. Subs (not used): Gibb, Wilson.
Fulham Taylor, Lawrence, Morgan, Smith, Coleman, Blake, Beardsley (Brazier 74), Bracewell, Moody, Peschisolido (Thorpe 80), Collins. Sub (not used): Trollope.
Att: 7,443. **Ref:** C J Foy (St Helens).

Oldham (0)2 **Southend** (0)0
Jepson 68
D. McNiven 87
Oldham Athletic Grobbelaar, Boxall, Serrant, Garnett, Graham (S. McNiven 75), Redmond, Orlygsson (D. McNiven 45), Rickers, Jepson (Holt 83), Allott, Reid.
Southend United Royce, Hails, Stimson, Roget, Coleman, Dublin, Maher, Coulbault, Boere, Aldridge, Clarke (Whyte 75). Southend relegated to Third Division. Subs (not used): Harris, Gridelet.
Att: 4,485. **Ref:** M L Dean (Eastham).

Plymouth (0)0 **Gillingham** (0)1
Smith 90
Plymouth Argyle Sheffield, Collins, Williams (Mauge 82), Saunders, Heathcote, Woods, Barlow, Corrie, Conlon (Jean 66), Corazzin, Billy. Sub (not used): Starbuck.
Gillingham Bartram, Patterson, Green (Statham 75), Smith, Ashby (Butler 71), Bryant, Hessenthaler, Pennock, Corbett (Pinnock 86), Akinbiyi, Galloway.
Att: 7,041. **Ref:** M J Brandwood (Lichfield).

Watford (0)0 **Grimsby** (0)0
Watford Chamberlain, Gibbs, Kennedy, Palmer, Millen, Mooney, Bazeley, Hyde, Lee (Foley 75), Easton, Hazan (Noel-Williams 75). Sub (not used): Robinson.
Grimsby Town Davison, McDermott, Gallimore, Handyside, Lever, Burnett, Donovan (Black 84), Smith, Nogan (Jobling 80), Livingstone (Lester 89), Groves.
Att: 14,002. **Ref:** A N Butler (Sutton-in-Ashfield).

Wrexham (0)0 **Preston** (0)0
Wrexham Marriott, Brace, Hardy, Brammer (Owen 85), Humes, Carey, Spink, Wilson, Connolly (Wainwright 70), Roberts, Ward. Sub (not used): Williams.
Preston North End Moilanen, Parkinson, Sparrow, McKenna, Jackson, Gregan, Rankine, Davey, Ashcroft, Macken, Eyres (Appleton 67). Subs (not used): Moyes, Nogan.
Att: 7,302. **Ref:** K M Lynch (Knaresborough).

Wycombe (1)1 **Chesterfld** (1)1
Stallard 26 Willis 19
Wycombe Wanderers Taylor, Kavanagh, Beeton, Ryan, Cousins, Mohan, Carroll, Scott (Read 64), Stallard (Baird 80), Harkin (Cornforth 75), Brown.
Chesterfield Mercer, Hewitt, Perkins, Curtis, Williams, Breckin, Willis, Howard (Dunn 85), Reeves (Allardyce 89), Lomas (Lenagh 88), Beaumont.
Att: 5,113. **Ref:** P R Richards (Preston).

Leading goalscorers (total): **24** Hayles (Bristol Rvrs); Bell (Walsall). **22** Akinbiyi (Gillingham); Thorpe (Fulham). **19** Stevens (Carlisle); Donovan (Grimsby); Peschisolido (Fulham). **18** Stallard (Wycombe); Lowe (Wigan); Taylor (Brentford). **17** Corazzin (Plymouth); Beadle (Bristol Rvrs); Cooke (Burnley). **16** Barlow (Wigan); Moody (Fulham).

N-W COUNTIES LEAGUE: First Division Atherton LR 1 Glossop NE 0; Darwen 0 Kidsgrove Ath 5; Maine Rd 1 Holker Old Boys 0; Newcastle Tn 1 Clitheroe 1; St Helens Tn 5 Rossendale Utd 0; Salford C 1 Mossley 4; Vauxhall GM 2 Burscough 1; Warrington Tn 1 Nantwich Tn 1.
S-E COUNTIES LEAGUE: First Division Crystal Palace 4 Charlton Ath 4; Ipswich 3 Watford 1; Portsmouth 0 Cambridge Utd 0; West Ham 2 QPR 0. **Postponed:** Fulham v Norwich C. **Second Division:** Bristol C 2 Reading 1; Swindon 0 Tottenham 1; Wimbledon 2 Oxford Utd 2.
LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth 6 Welshpool 0; Barry Tn 2 Flint Tn 0; Caersws 1 Conwy 4; Cemaes Bay 1 Rhayader Tn 3; Cwmbran 1 Caernarfon 2; Ebbw Vale 2 TNS 1; Porthmadog 1 Newtown 4; Rhyl 0 Haverfordwest 2; Carmarthen Tn 0 Bangor 3; Inter Cable-Tel 4 Connahs Quay 1.
HIGHLAND FOOTBALL LEAGUE: Cove Rngrs 13 Fort William 0; Wick Ac 0 Lossiemouth 1; Wick Ac 0 Forres Mech 1.

THIRD DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Notts County	45	28	12	5	77	41	96
Macclesfield	45	22	13	10	60	43	79
Torquay	45	21	11	13	67	57	74
Lincoln City	45	19	15	11	58	50	72
Colchester	45	20	11	14	71	60	71
Scarborough	45	19	14	12	66	57	71
Barnet	45	19	13	13	60	49	70
Rotherham	45	16	19	10	65	56	67
Peterborough	45	18	12	15	63	51	66
Scunthorpe	45	18	12	15	54	52	66
Leyton Orient	45	18	12	15	60	46	63
Mansfield	45	16	17	13	63	55	62
Shrewsbury	45	16	13	16	61	60	61
Exeter	45	15	15	15	67	60	60
Cambridge Utd	45	14	18	13	63	56	60
Chester	45	17	9	19	59	60	60
Hartlepool	45	12	22	11	61	53	58
Rochdale	45	16	7	22	54	54	55
Darlington	45	14	11	20	56	72	53
Swansea	45	13	11	21	49	61	50
Cardiff	45	9	22	14	49	52	49
Hull	45	10	8	27	55	83	38
Brighton	45	6	17	22	37	64	35
Doncaster	45	4	8	33	30	112	20

Leyton Orient deducted 3pts for fielding suspended players

Barnet (0)0 **Mansfield** (0)1
Whitehall 52 (pen)
Barnet Harrison, Stockley (Devine 79), Harle, Heald, Goodhind, Onwere (Samuels 56), Doolan, Searle (Adams 79), Devine, McGleish, Simpson.
Mansfield Town Bowling, Williams, Harper, Peters (Eustace 46), Kerr (Clarke 70), Hackett, Schofield, Peacock, Christie, Whitehall, Tallon. Sub (not used): Sissons.
Att: 2,797. **Ref:** B Knight (Orpington).

Brighton (1)2 **Hull** (0)2
Ansah 32 Darby 51, 61
Barker 54
Brighton & Hove Albion Ormerod, Linger (Reinelt 73), Atkinson, Minton, Hobson, Woolsey, Storer, Armstrong, Barker, Ansah, Thomas (Mayo 59). Sub (not used): Andrews.
Hull City Wilson, Lowthorpe, Rioch, Edwards, Doncel, Joyce, Peacock, McGinty (Mann 82), Brown (Wright 72), Darby (Hateley 88), Boyack.
Att: 3,888. **Ref:** S G Bennett (Redhill).

Cambridge (2)2 **Notts Co** (1)2
Butler 19 Jones 26, 75
Beall 29
Cambridge United Barrett, Chenery, Ashbee, Duncan, Joseph, Campbell, Wanless, Beall, Butler (Taylor 85), Kyd, Benjamin. Subs (not used): Preece, Wilson.
Notts County Ward, Poric (Robinson 80), Pearce, Redmile, Strodder, Dyer, Finnan (Dudley 68), Hughes, Farrell, Jones, Robson (Jackson 78).
Att: 4,008. **Ref:** J P Robinson (Hull).

Colchester (1)1 **Leyton O** (1)1
N Gregory 44 Inglethorpe 43
Colchester United Emberson, Dunne, Betts, D. Gregory, Greene (Skelton 55), Branston, Wilkins, Buckle, Sale (Duguid 75), N. Gregory, Abrahams (Forbes 88).
Leyton Orient MacKenzie, R Joseph, Raynor (Simpson 52), Smith, Warren, Clark, Ling, M Joseph, Harris, Maskell (Baker 61), Inglethorpe, Harris. Sub (not used): Morrison.
Att: 6,220. **Ref:** A R Hall (Birmingham).

Darlington (1)2 **Lincoln** (1)2
Hope 34 Holmes 21 (pen)
Ellison 62 Fleming 90
Darlington Preece, Ficking, Hope, Liddle, Crosby, De Vos, Oliver, Brydon, Ellison, Naylor, Brumwell. Subs (not used): Gaughan, Shaw, Campbell.
Lincoln City Vaughan, Brown, Barnett, Fleming, Holmes (Bailey 77), Austin, Walling (Whitney 71), Finnigan, Smith, Thorpe, Alcide. Sub (not used): Martin.
Att: 3,160. **Ref:** M S Pike (Barrow-in-Furness).

Hartlepool (1)2 **Cardiff** (0)0
Midgley 3
Ingram 84 (pen)
Hartlepool United Hollund, Knowles, Clark, Ingram (Di Lella 81), Davies, Bradley, Beech, Miller, Midgley, Howard, Stephenson (Irvine 88). Sub (not used): Halliday.
Cardiff City Hallworth, Jarman, Beech, Phillips (Cares 63), Harris (Lloyd 73), Fowler, Middleton, Penney, Saville, Roberts, O'Sullivan (Earnshaw 83)
Att: 2,817. **Ref:** W C Burns (Scarborough)

Macclesfld (1)3 **Chester** (0)2
Wood 14 Whelan 52
Sorvel 48 Thomas 79
Power 59
Macclesfield Town Price, Tinson, McDonald, Payne, Ingram, Sodje, Askey (Chambers 74), Wood, Sorvel, Power, Whittaker. Subs (not used): Durkan, Howarth.
Chester City Brown, Dobson, Fisher, Richardson, Whelan, Woods, Wright (Thomas 62), Priest, Murphy, Flitcroft, Rimmer.
Macclesfield promoted to Nationwide Divi.
Subs (not used): Giles, Shelton.
Att: 5,862. **Ref:** J A Kirkby (Sheffield)

Rotherham (0)2 **Rochdale** (2)2
White 69 Jones 32
Glover 90 Painter 44 (pen)
Rotherham United Mimms, Richardson, Hurst, Garner (Hudson 46), Dillon, Knill, Berry (Martindale 46), Thompson, White, Glover, Roscoe. Sub (not used): Darby
Rochdale Edwards, Fensome, Barlow, Hill (Bailey 46), Bayliss, Gouck, Jones, Painter, Carden (Scott 88), Farrell, Stuart. Sub (not used): Gray.
Att: 3,463. **Ref:** R Pearson (Peterlee)

Scarboro (0)0 **Shrewsbury** (0)0
Scarborough Elliott, Jackson, Sutherland, Snodin, Atkin, G. Bennett, Williams (Campbell 46), McElhatton, Mitchell (T Bennett 88), Brodie, Worrall (Robinson 86).
Shrewsbury Town Edwards, Seabury, Hanmer, Wilding, Scott, Gayle, Berkley (Jagielka 61), White (Williams 46), Steele, Brown, Evans. Sub (not used): Preece.
Att: 3,712. **Ref:** B Coddington (Sheffield).

Sc'thorpe (2)2 **Exeter** (1)1
D'Auria 7 Rowbotham 38 (pen)
Harsley 43
Scunthorpe United Evans, Walsh, McAuley, Marshall (Walker 61), Wilcox, Hope, Harsley, D'Auria, Eyre, Forrester (Graves 79), Calvo-Garcia (Featherstone 61)
Exeter City Bayes, Richardson, Gale, Blake (Medlin 80), Clark, Baddeley, Rowbotham, Phillips (McConnell 67), Flack (Fry 79), Birch, Gardner.
Att: 2,024. **Ref:** M J Jones (Chester)

Swansea (0)0 **Doncaster** (0)0
Swansea City Freestone, Price (O'Gorman 45), Lacey (Phillips 67), O'Leary, Walker, Bound, Cusack, Jenkins, Alsop, Watkin (Newhouse 57), Coates.
Doncaster Rovers Davis, Moncrieffe (Pell 89), Hilton, Warren, George, Hawthorne, Cunningham, Donnelly, Betts, Mike, Wilson. Subs (not used): Debenham, Esdaille.
Att: 3,551. **Ref:** D Pugh (Wirral).

Torquay (2)3 **Peterboro** (1)1
Clayton 16 Green 6
Macfarlane 45
Jack 63
Torquay United Veysey, Gurney, Gibbs, Robinson, Gittens, Watson, Clayton (Leadbitter 89), Hill, Jack, Macfarlane (Bedeau 88), McCall. Sub (not used): Partridge.
Peterborough United Tyler, Linton, Lewis, Gill (Bullimore 62), Neal, Edwards, Davies (Cleaver 62), Castle, Green, Rowe, Etherington (Quinn 62).
Att: 4,472. **Ref:** A Bates (Stoke-on-Trent).

FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National Division: Arsenal 3 Tranmere Rvrs 0, Croydon 0 Everton 0; Millwall 5 v Bradford C 0.

Leading goalscorers (total): **28** Jones (Notts County); Whitehall (Mansfield). **25** Quinn (Peterborough). **23** Rowbotham (Exeter). **22** Griffiths (Leyton Orient). **18** Devine (Barnet); *Carruthers (Peterborough)*. **17** Glover (Rotherham). **16** Painter (Rochdale); Steele (Shrewsbury). **15** Williams (Scarborough); Farrell (Notts County). **14** Bird (Swansea); Flack (Exeter); Darby (Hull)

Scottish League

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Celtic	34	21	7	6	61	23	70
Rangers	34	20	9	5	74	36	69
Hearts	34	18	9	7	66	44	63
Kilmarnock	34	12	10	12	38	51	46
St Johnstone	34	12	9	13	35	38	45
Dunfermline	34	8	12	14	42	65	36
Aberdeen	34	8	11	15	35	50	35
Dundee Utd	34	7	13	14	40	48	34
Motherwell	34	9	7	18	43	59	34
Hibernian	34	6	11	17	36	56	29

Celtic (0)0 **Hibernian** (0)0
Celtic Gould, Boyd, Annoni, Donnelly (Blinker 79), Rieper, Stubbs, Larsson, Burley (Wieghorst 82), Jackson (McNamara 58), Lambert, O'Donnell.
Hibernian Gunn, Miller, Elliot, Brebner, Hughes, Dods, Skinner, Rougier (Harper 62), Crawford (Tosh 81), Lavety, McGinlay. Sub (not used): Renwick.
Att: 49,500. **Ref:** G Simpson (Westhill).

Dundee U (0)0 **St Johnstn** (0)2
Jenkinson 86
O'Boyle 89
Dundee United Dykstra, Jenkins, Malpas, Jonsson, Perry, Pedersen, Olofsson, Zetterlund (Sinclair 88), McSwegan, Dolan (Gill 83), Winters (McLaren 78).
St Johnstone Main, McQuillan (McCluskey 80), Preston, O'Neil, Weir, Kernaghan, McMahon, O'Halloran, Grant, O'Boyle, Jenkinson. Subs (not used): McAnespie, Andersson.
Att: 8,045. **Ref:** K Bisset (Inverness).

Hearts (0)0 **Rangers** (0)3
Gattuso 46, 78
Albertz 65
Hearts Rousset, McPherson, Naysmith, Weir, Locke, Ritchie, McCann, Fulton, Flogel, Makel, Callaghan (Robertson 52). Subs (not used): Murray, Quitongo.
Rangers Niemi, Cleland, Stensaas, Gough, Moore, Bjorklund, Thern (Ferguson 73), Gattuso, Durie (McCall 83), Albertz, Laudrup (McCoist 87)
Att: 17,415. **Ref:** J McCluskey (Stewarton).

Kilmarnk (1)2 **Aberdeen** (1)1
Vareille 33, 85 Dodds 44
Kilmarnock Marshall, MacPherson, Kerr (McGowne 88), Lauchlan, Montgomerie, Reilly, Nevin (Mitchell 70), Holt, Roberts (Henry 89), Vareille, Burke
Aberdeen Leighton, Buchan (O'Neil 62), Whyte, Rowson, Inglis, Smith, Glilles, Jess, Newell, Dodds, Glass. Subs (not used): Miller, Anderson
Att: 8,212. **Ref:** S Dougal (Glasgow).

Motherwell (1)1 **Dunfrmline** (2)3
Shivute 26 Smith 18
Ireland 31
Britton 54
Motherwell Woods, Craigan, McMillan, Denham, Martin, Falconer, Valakari (Davies 61), Lindqvist, Coyne, Shivute (McCulloch 76), Coyle. Sub (not used): Ross.
Dunfermline Athletic Westwater, Shields, McCulloch, Tod, Ireland, Huxford, Britton (Bingham 81), Robertson (Squires 50), Smith (Faulconbridge 80), French, Millar.
Att: 5,745. **Ref:** J Herald (Newton Mearns).

FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dundee	34	20	10	4	52	20	70
Falkirk	34	18	8	8	53	39	62
Raith	34	15	9	9	49	31	57
Airdrie	34	14	12	8	40	35	54
Gr Morton	34	10	10	14	43	48	40
Hamilton	34	9	11	14	42	51	38
Ayr	34	9	10	15	36	52	37
St Mirren	34	9	8	17	39	53	35
Stirling	34	8	10	16	40	54	34
Partick	34	7	12	15	41	52	33

Falkirk (0)1 **Dundee** (0)0
McGrillen 88
Att: 4,189. **Ref:** A Freeland (Aberdeen)

Morton (0)0 **Ayr** (1)1
Ferguson 34
Att: 2,315. **Ref:** A Gemmill (Linlithgow).

Partick (0)0 **Hamilton** (0)0
Att: 3,193. **Ref:** K Clark (Paisley).

Raith (0)0 **Stirling A** (0)1
Lorimer 90
Att: 2,326. **Ref:** M Clark (Edinburgh)

St Mirren (0)0 **Airdrie** (1)1
Farrell 18
Att: 3,329. **Ref:** T Brown (Edinburgh).

SECOND DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Livingston	34	16	11	7	55	36	59
Clydebank	34	15	11	8	41	28	56
Stranraer	34	16	7	11	59	44	55
Queen of South	34	14	8	12	55	50	50
East Fife	34	13	6	15	48	56	45
Inverness CT	34	11	10	13	61	49	43
Forfar	34	11	10	13	50	60	43
Stenhousemuir	34	10	10	14	42	49	40
Clyde	34	9	12	13	38	52	39
Brechin	34	7	11	16	40	65	32

Brechin (0)1 **Forfar** (1)1
Hutcheon 76 McLauchlan 30
Att: 531. **Ref:** S Roy (Westhill).

Clyde (1)2 **Clydebank** (0)0
Graham 44; King 66
Att: 648. **Ref:** G Alison (Dumfries).

East Fife (0)0 **Inverness CT** (1)1
Thomson 9
Att: 454. **Ref:** K Toner (Glasgow).

Livingston (0)1 **Stenhsmr** (0)1
Wright 47 Little 84
Att: 1,109. **Ref:** J Young (Glasgow).

Queen Sth (0)3 **Stranraer** (1)2
Bryce 58 (pen), 87 Geraghty 35
Payne 65 McAulay 83 (pen)
Att: 1,615 **Ref:** J Rowbotham (Kirkcaldy).

THIRD DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Alloa	34	22	4	8	74	38	70
Arbroath	33	19	6	8	63	37	63
Ross County	34	17	10	7	62	34	61
East Stirling	34	17	5	12	47	42	56
Albion	33	12	5	16	54	64	41
Queen's Park	34	10	10	14	41	50	40
Berwick	34	9	12	13	42	52	39
Cowdenbeath	34	11	2	21	28	52	35
Montrose	34	9	8	17	49	75	35
Dumbarton	34	7	10	17	39	56	31

Albion (0)1 **Queens Pk** (1)2
Docherty 81 Edgar 42
Hardie 63
Att: 403. **Ref:** I Fyfe (Linlithgow).

Alloa (3)5 **E.Stirling** (1)2
Haddow 3, 63 Watt 5
Mollison 35, 43, 70 Hunter 69
Att: 785. **Ref:** B Tait (East Kilbride).

Arbroath (2)4 **Montrose** (2)2
Gallagher 27 (pen) McGlashan 16, 9
Peters 43; Crawford 55
Tindal 75
Att: 1,340. **Ref:** S Kaney (Perth).

Dumbarton (0)0 **Berwick** (0)2
Walton 56
Neil 83
Att: 310 **Ref:** W Young (Clarkston).

Ross Co (0)1 **Cowdnbth** (0)0
Tarrant 69
Att: 1,201. **Ref:** E Martindale (Glasgow).

Foreign football

ITALY

Bari 0 Vicenza 0
Brescia 1 Bologna 3
Empoli 5 Lecce 1
Juventus 1 Inter Milan 0
Lazio 1 Parma 2
AC Milan 0 Napoli 0
Piacenza 3 Atalanta Bergamo 1
Sampdoria 2 Fiorentina 0
Udinese 4 AS Roma 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Juventus	31	20	8	2	63	25	68
Inter Milan	31	20	5	6	57	24	65
Lazio	31	16	8	7	51	23	56
Parma	31	15	10	6	51	33	55
Udinese	31	16	7	8	56	38	55
AS Roma	31	14	10	7	57	39	52
Fiorentina	31	12	12	7	64	34	48
Sampdoria	31	13	7	11	49	50	46
Bologna	31	11	11	9	49	40	44
AC Milan	31	11	10	10	36	35	43
Vicenza	31	9	8	14	33	55	35
Bari	31	9	7	15	28	40	34
Empoli	31	9	6	16	44	50	33
Piacenza	31	6	14	11	29	34	32
Brescia	31	7	8	16	39	58	29
Atalanta Berg	31	6	10	15	22	46	28
Lecce	31	5	7	19	29	68	22
Napoli	31	2	7	22	21	69	13

SPANISH LEAGUE: Compostela 3 Valencia 1; Salamanca 4 Sporting Gijon 0; Atletico Madrid 2 Tenerife 2; Real Zaragoza 2 Racing Santander 1; Oviedo 0 Valladolid 1; Celta Vigo 1 Athletic Bilbao 1; **Saturday:** Real Betis 2 Mallorca 1; Espanyol 1 Barcelona 1. **Leading standings:** 1 Barcelona P35, Pts74; 2 Real Madrid 34–59; 3 Athletic Bilbao 35–58.

GERMAN LEAGUE: Saturday: VfL Bochum 3 Karlsruhe SC 3; Hansa Rostock 1 VfB Stuttgart 1; VfL Wolfsburg 1 Borussia Dortmund 4; Hamburg SV 1 MSV Duisburg 0; Cologne 2 TSV 1860 Munich 3; Schalke 04 0 Werder Bremen 1. **Leading standings:** 1 Kaiserslautern P31 Pts63; 2 Bayern Munich 31–59; 3 Bayer Leverkusen 30–53.

DUTCH LEAGUE: Graafschap Doetinchem 2 Twente Enschede 1; Groningen 1 Utrecht 2; Vitesse Arnhem 2 Ajax Amsterdam 0; RKC Waalwijk 1 Willem II Tilburg 4; PSV Eindhoven 3 Feyenoord 3. **Saturday:** Roda JC Kerkrade 2 Sparta Rotterdam 0; Heerenveen 2 Fortuna Sittard 2; NEC Nijmegen 2 NAC Breda 0. **Leading standings:** 1 Ajax Amsterdam P32, Pts86; 2 PSV Eindhoven 32–69; 3 Vitesse Arnhem 32–64.

FRENCH LEAGUE: Saturday: RC Lens 5 Bastia 1; Toulouse 0 Metz 1; Olympique Marseille 0 Strasbourg 0; Paris St Germain 1 Monaco 2; Girondins Bordeaux 1 Chateauroux 0; Olympique Lyon 2 Cannes 0; Montpellier 1 AJ Auxerre 1; Nantes 1 Rennes 1; En Avant Guingamp 1 Le Havre 2. **Leading standings:** 1 RC Lens P33, Pts67; 2 Metz 33–65; 3 Olympique Marseille 33–56.

BELGIAN LEAGUE: Genk 1 Lierse 3; Eendracht Aalst 3 Sint-Truiden 2. **Saturday:** Ekeren 1 Westerlo 0; Lokeren 1 Harelbeke 0; SC Charleroi 0 Beveren 0; Excelsior Mouscron 2 Antwerp 0; Standard Liege 4 RWD Molenbeek 0; Ghent 2 Lommel 0. **Leading standings:** 1 Club Bruges P30, Pts74; 2 Genk 31–63; 3 Ekeren 31–57.

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Campomaiorense 5 Farense 2; Belenenses 2 Rio Ave 4; Vitoria Setubal 5 Braga 1; Leca 0 Chaves 1; Estrela Amadora 0 Vitoria Guimaraes 1; Porto 3 Boavista 2. **Saturday:** Varzim 0 Benfica 0. **Leading standings:** 1 Porto P31, Pts74; 2 Benfica 31–62; 3 Vitoria Guimaraes 31–52.

Non-League

CONFERENCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Halifax	41	25	12	4	72	37	87
Woking	40	21	8	11	69	42	71
Rushden & D	40	22	5	13	76	54	71
Cheltenham	39	20	9	10	57	42	69
Morecambe	39	20	8	11	72	61	68
Hereford	41	18	13	10	55	46	67
Hednesford	41	17	12	12	58	50	63
Slough	39	16	9	14	52	48	57
Northwich	41	14	15	12	60	58	57
Welling	40	15	9	16	57	60	54
Yeovil	39	15	8	16	59	57	53
Hayes	40	14	10	16	56	51	52
Dover	39	14	10	15	58	66	52
Southport	40	13	11	16	55	53	50
Stevenage	40	13	11	16	57	59	50
Kettering	40	12	13	15	49	55	49
Kidderminster	41	11	14	16	56	62	47
Farnborough	40	12	7	21	54	67	43
Telford	40	9	12	19	49	72	39
Leek Town	37	9	11	17	48	61	38
Gateshead	41	8	11	22	48	81	35
Stalybridge	39	7	8	24	44	82	29

Dover 2 Morecambe 3
Farnboro 1 Hednesford 3
Gateshead 1 Hayes 1
Halifax 1 Cheltenham 1
Hereford 1 Rushden 1
Kettering 2 Kidderminster 2
Leek 1 Welling 2
Northwich 0 Woking 2
Southport 2 Yeovil 1
Telford 3 Stevenage 0
Postponed: Slough v Stalybridge.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier Division: Accrington 1 Alfreton Tn 1; Altrincham 7 Emley 1; Bamber Bridge 2 B Auckland 1; Barrow 2 Hyde 2; Colwyn Bay 2 Blyth Spartans 0; Frickley 0 Leigh RMI 0; Guiseley 1 Runcorn 2; Spennymoor Utd 1 Marine 2; Winsford Utd 1 Gainsborough 1; Lancaster 3 Boston 1. **Leading standings:** 1 Barrow P41, Pts83; 2 Boston 41–73; 3 Leigh 41–73.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: First Division: Bradford PA 0 Belper Tn 0; Gt Harwood Tn 2 Stocksbridge PS 2; Harrogate Tn 0 Congleton Tn 3; Lincoln Utd 2 Gretna 1; Netherfield 1 Matlock Tn 1; Whitley Bay 1 Ashton Utd 1; Whitby Tn 2 Eastwood Tn 0; Workington 0 Droylsden 1; Worksop Tn 3 Buxton 2; Belper Tn 4, Gretna 3. **President's Cup: Final, first leg:** Guiseley 1 Runcorn 2.

RYMAN LEAGUE: Premier Division: Aylesbury 1 St Albans 2; Boreham Wood 1 Hendon 2; Bromley 0 Yeading 2; Carshalton 2 Oxford 0; Dagenham 2 Dulwich 1; Harrow 5 Enfield 2; Hitchin 1 Chesham 2; Kingstonian 3 Heybridge 0; Walton 0 Gravesend 1; Basingstoke 1 Sutton Utd 1. **Leading standings:** 1 Kingstonian P40, Pts83; 2 Boreham Wood 39–75; 3 Sutton Utd 41–75.

RYMAN LEAGUE: First Division: Grays Ath 2 Uxbridge 3; Leatherhead 0 Bognor Regis Tn 1; Maidenhead Utd 3 Barton Rvrs 0; Molesey 0 Leyton Pennant 1; Romford 2 Chertsey Tn 2; Staines Tn 3 Croydon 1; Thame Utd 1 Aldershot Tn 4, Wembley 1 Billericay Tn 0; Wokingham Tn 1 Abingdon Tn 1; Worthing 4 Whyteleafe 0. **Postponed:** Berkhamsted Tn v Hampton. **Second Division:** Barking 0 Leighton Tn 1; Bedford Tn 3 Tilbury 0; Bracknell Tn 1 Tooting & Mitcham 2; Canvey Island 3 Edgware Tn 2; Chalfont St Peter 4 Egham Tn 2; Cheshunt 0 Witham Tn 0; Met Police 4 Hungerford Tn 2; Wealdstone 4 Horsham 2; Wivenhoe Tn 3 Northwood 1. **Postponed:** Banstead Ath v Braintree Tn; Windsor & Eton v Marlow. **Third Division:** Aveley 0 E Thurrock Utd 1; Camberley Tn 1 Corinthian Casuals 0; Croydon Ath 5 Epsom & Ewell 2; Hemel Hempstead 7 Flackwell Hth 0; Hornchurch 0 Harlow Tn 3; Tring Tn 1 Southall 2; Ware 0 Hertford Tn 5; Wingate & Finchley 4 Kingsbury Tn 1. **Postponed:** Dorking v Lewes.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier Division: Atherstone 1 Forest Green 1; Bath 2 Kings Lynn 0; Gloucester 3 Cambridge 5; Halesowen 0 Crawley 1; Merthyr 4 Bromsgrove 2; Nuneaton 2 Ashford Tn 1; Sittingbourne 1 Dorchester 0; Tamworth 1 Burton 1; Worcester 0 Hastings 0; St Leonards 1 Gresley Rrs 3. **Postponed:** Salisbury v Rothwell Tn. **Leading standings:** 1 Merthyr T P40, Pts83; 2 Forest Green 40–83; 3 Burton 41–71.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Midland Division: Bedworth Utd 0 Stafford Rngrs 1; Blakenall 1 Grantham Tn 3; Hinckley Utd 3 Ilkeston Tn 4; Paget Rngrs 0 Evesham Utd 0; RC Warwick 1 Corby Tn 1; Raunds Tn 1 Sutton Coldfield Tn 0; Shepshed Dyn 2 Brackley Tn 0; Stourbridge 0 Solihull Bor 1; VS Rugby 1 Bilston Tn 1; Wisbech Tn 2 Redditch Utd 1; Brackley Tn 1 Redditch Utd 0. **Southern Division:** Chelmsford C 3 Havant Tn 2; Erith & Belvedere 0 Cinderford Tn 1; Fleet Tn 2 Trowbridge Tn 1; Margate 3 Clevedon Tn 1; Newport AFC 7 Fareham Tn 1; Weymouth 3 Cirencester Tn 3; Witney Tn 2 Waterlooville 0; Yate Tn 0 Baldock Tn 1; Fareham Tn 0 Trowbridge Tn 1; Margate 4 Cinderford Tn 0; Havant Tn 2 Yate Tn 2; Newport I-O-W 3 Dartford 0; Tonbridge Angels 1 Bashley 1. **Postponed:** Newport I-O-W v Dartford; Tonbridge Angels v Bashley.

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier Division: Barnstaple Tn 5 Brislington 0; Bridgwater Tn 0 Mangotsfield Utd 1; Chippenham Tn 0 Backwell Utd 1; Melksham Tn 3 Chard Tn 1; Tiverton Tn 5 Calne Tn 0; Torrington 1 Keynsham Tn 3; Taunton Tn 2 Paulton Rvrs 3; Bridport 2 Bristol MF 0; Odd Down 5 Bideford 2. **Postponed:** Elmore v Westbury Utd; Odd Down v Bideford.

FAI NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier Division: Cork C 2 Bohemians 1; St Patricks Ath 4 Dundalk 2; UCD 5 Sligo Rvrs 1.

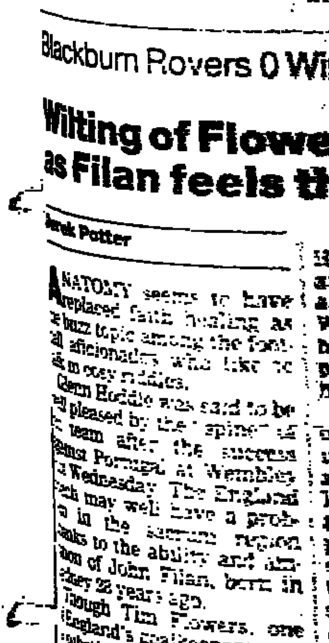
FA COUNTY YOUTH CUP Final: West Riding 1 Northumberland 2.

Guardian Monday April 27 1998

Premiership: Barnsley 0 Arsenal 2

Bergka[mp]

Martin Thorpe
sees Arsenal march
on the championship
with misgivings


Hughes . . . spectacular

Chelsea 4 L[iverpool 1]

Live[...]

Blackburn Rovers 0 Wimbledon [0]

Wilting of Flowers in t[...] as Filan feels the he[at]

Derek Potter

ANATOMY seems to have replaced faith healing as the buzz topic among the football aficionados who like to dig into such matters.
Glenn Hoddle was said to be well pleased by the "spine" of his team after the success against Portugal at Wembley on Wednesday. The England coach may well have a problem in the same region thanks to the ability and ambition of John Filan, born in Sydney 28 years ago.
Though Tim Flowers, one of England's goalkeepers, was substitute and presumably, after his shoulder injury, Filan played for the first time since he broke his arm in the victory against Sheffield Wednesday last August.
Then Blackburn were performing like runaway champions and Filan might, who knows, have replaced Flowers for good. As it is, Filan expects to stay in the team as Blackburn approach their final three matches hoping to recover over a disastrous sequence of only seven points from the last 33.
Roy Hodgson, their manager, does not envisage a no-win goalkeeper-selection problem for Hoddle, who has already had a word with his striker Chris Sutton. "No one will convince me that you need to see him playing in a situation like this ... and I was an international coach and manager," Hodgson, formerly in charge of Switzerland, said. "If Tim isn't in the team, he is not going to forget how to play, is he?"

صكذا من الاصل

Premiership: Barnsley 0 Arsenal 2

Bergkamp sustains title roll

Martin Thorpe sees Arsenal march on the championship with misgivings

WHEN Dennis Bergkamp's shot started out it was heading for the McDonald's sign to the right of Dave Watson's goal. By the end of its flight the net was billowing. Effectively Arsenal had won the championship because this time only the ball had gone on a bender.

Arsène Wenger's clean-up campaign championing pasta instead of Pinot has produced an intoxication of its own. The title is now almost certainly Arsenal's. Regardless of how Manchester United fare at Crystal Palace tonight, victories at home to Derby on Wednesday and Everton on Sunday will be the cue to pop corks in the dressing-room, except for those pledged only to twist screw tops.

But, while Arsenal's recent resurgence has been applauded unconditionally everywhere except Manchester United and Tottenham, Saturday's victory was tinged with regret.

At the end of the game Barnsely fans stood to honour Arsenal with a rousing ovation topped by a chorus of "champions, champions". It takes a lot for a northerner to admit second best to a bunch of flash Harrys from London but the gesture was typical of a club whose friendliness and honesty has won a huge place in the sympathies of most neutrals.

The reality, however, is that Barnsley have probably not won another season in the Premiership as Arsenal's victory all but condemned them to the drop.

Relegation would spark many uncertaintities, not least whether Danny Wilson and the team's best players will be persuaded to attempt a second coming next season.

But relegation will also deprive the locals of a key brick in the rebuilding of their self-respect. The flat-cap and ferret population of Barnsley is probably at its smallest ever, yet the stereotype remains. A successful football team was a way of helping redefine the town's image as well as boosting morale in an area hit by 15 years of government-led industrial decline.

"They have my sympathy," said Wenger. "I started out at a small club and that experience always helped me keep my humility when I moved to bigger ones."

Arsenal and Barnsley share things in common, even if they sit at opposite ends of football's economic scale. Both have been written off this season more times than was sensible. And both, in their own way, needed time to learn about the Premiership before coping with the Premiership exam.

For Barnsley that meant turning round a disastrous first three months, which they did creditably enough, though probably too late to repair the statistical damage already done.

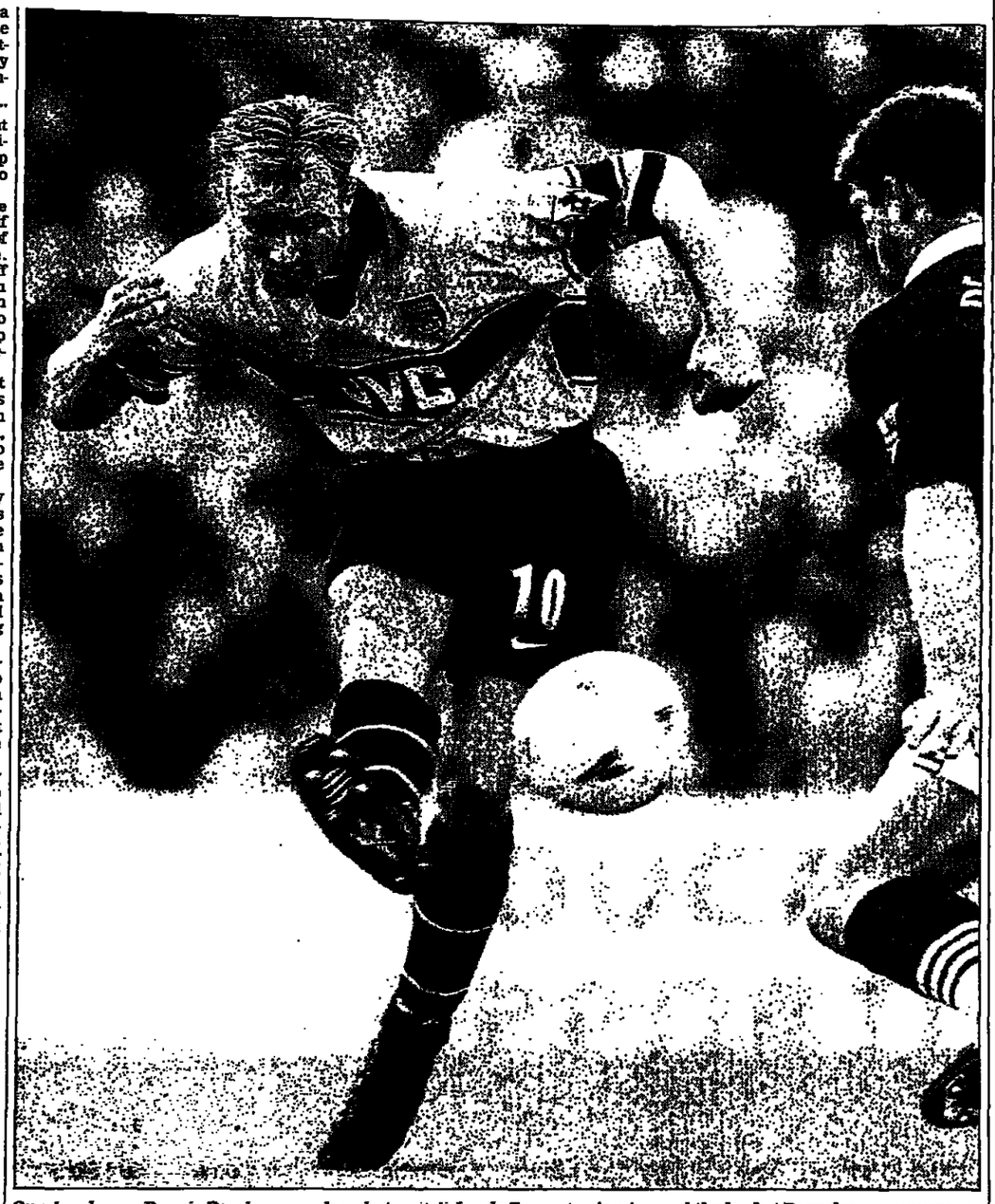
For Arsenal it was really only when Marc Overmars cuaght on to the pace of the English game and later when Nicolas Anelka's self-confidence triumphed over his teenage nerves that the team began to shake off its past and become "scoring, scoring Arsenal".

Here they should have finished with more than two goals. Overmars wasted a couple of great chances, Patrick Vieira and David Platt went close and Anelka hit the bar.

For all Barnsley's early hard work, Bergkamp trumped it in a split-second flash of genius as he shimmied right and stroked in the opening goal from the edge of the area on 29 minutes. After that the home side were either chasing the game or banging their heads against the brick wall known as Arsenal's back-line which Wenger argued should play for England en masse.

Arsenal's second goal was set up by Platt for Overmars to sprint at goal and beat Watson. With Ian Wright threatening an end-of-season return, the Gunners are well set for a bubbly finale.

As for Barnsley, they have not given up on their cherished Premiership place just yet. But they will already be thinking of how to drown their sorrows.



On a bender . . . Dennis Bergkamp curls a shot past Arjan de Zeeuw to give Arsenal the lead at Barnsley JULIAN HODGSON

Derby County 0 Leicester City 4

Heskey leads the trouncing of Derby

David Hopps

PERHAPS Derby County were a little confused and feared that "getting into Europe" would mean that they will be paid in Euros and forced to drive on the right. On the evidence of this thumping defeat they have no cause to worry for another year at least.

Derby's manager, Jim Smith, had denounced last weekend's defeat at Crystal Palace as his worst experience in office. After Leicester scored four times in the first 17 minutes yesterday, he was uncomfortably spoilt for choice. "Horrendous," he said. "Nobody seems to want to get into Europe."

Confusion was particularly rife on the left of Derby's defence, where Christian Dailly and Chris Powell had some reintroducing to do. All four goals came from that source.

Derby began with Dailly as the left of three central defenders, with Powell immediately ahead of him in a four-man midfield. As the goals flew in, they half-heartedly switched for the rest of the half to four at the back, although that owed less to orders from the bench than shell-shock.

By the standards of their first-half defending, Derby achieved a minor success for Leicester's first goal in the second minute — a partially cleared corner. Rob Savage swung over another cross and Emile Heskey's robust header from six yards beat Mart Poom. Leicester added a second 16 seconds later as Heskey embarked upon a brawny run down the right. It was one of those traditional Sunday afternoon runs, with not a soul in sight. Heskey might have shot but he crossed to the far post, where Muzzy Izzet had outpaced his markers to head in.

Heskey's Premiership goals tally — seven at kick-off — hardly endorsed talk of him as a future England international but he looked devastating enough yesterday. By the ninth minute he had scored his second, outjumping Dailly to flick Steve Guppy's inswinging corner past a statuesque Poom.

Poom was also motionless for the fourth — his digestive system apart, perhaps. Ian Marshall's slouching challenge for Savage's cross did not amount to much but by now the ball knew the way and trundled into the corner. Poom was so disoriented that the first cross he caught, he promptly flung out of play.

Heskey should have had a hat-trick by half-time, shooting wide as Marshall was allowed to walk back from an offside position. Bohinen was booed by his own fans, who perceived a lack of resolve, and Derby's first notable tackle was a crude one by Dean Sturridge, on the ebullient Guppy, which earned a booking.

Sturridge, at least, was trying to summon a response. He almost scored in first-half injury time, Kasey Keller saving alertly to his right, and then struck the bar shortly before the hour after Paulo Wanchope had headed down.

Leicester, bolstered by their most comprehensive victory since returning to the Premiership two years ago, sneaked above Derby in the table. They, at least, remain keen for Europe. As their manager Martin O'Neill said: "We're up for it and we've given ourselves a chance."

Chelsea 4 Liverpool 1

Liverpool take a lesson in commitment



Hughes . . . spectacular

Russell Thomas

"WE WON'T let you down," Gianluca Vialli promised in his match programme notes. The Chelsea supporters saw their team, purposefully and pleasingly, fulfil the manager's words. But Liverpool performed as if the Premiership was a low priority.

Vialli's eyes reflected immense satisfaction; Roy Evans's blazed with anger. Liverpool's manager again spoke with honesty, and in this case bravery, since he admitted that his condemnation of a team "without enough guts" who "threw the towel in" imperils not only certain players' Anfield futures but his own.

Rotation has been the theme of Ruud Gullit's Chelsea and now Vialli's. Evans may be tempted to rip up his team-sheet and start again. It proved a good match for the suspended Michael Owen and injured Jamie Redknapp to miss because the manager's invective was not aimed merely at woeful defending. "I'll get different players in if I have to. I won't accept that."

With what Evans described as a "capitulation" after Chelsea's second goal, Liverpool conceded four for the first time this season. But they have been breached in their past dozen games. "I accept all that criticism," said Evans. "It's my responsibility; I expect some of them to take theirs."

Liverpool need another win to guarantee a place in the Uefa Cup so there is no excuse for end-of-term laxity. They are free of the distractions diverting Chelsea from the Premiership, notably Stockholm in 16 days' time. Yet with this win Vialli's team levered Liverpool out of third place

Chelsea have reached this season's heights with and without Gianfranco Zola. Here he departed after 31 minutes with a strained groin. Little is going right for last year's Footballer of the Year. Marginalised by Italy for France this summer, he may be on the Chelsea fringe in the Cup Winners' Cup final on May 13.

Vialli must be tempted to go with Tore Andre Flo, who took opportunities spendidly as Zola's replacement, scoring Chelsea's third after his nimble footwork set up his cleverly placed shot. Liverpool's defenders looked uneasy both in the air and on the ground whenever the tall Norwegian menaced them.

Flo has now overtaken Vialli as Chelsea's leading Premiership scorer but, given the player-manager's contribution to the European cause, one Italian reserves the right to field himself in Stockholm.

Mark Hughes, yet to start in Europe this season, produced another spectacular goal, a scissors kick from 10 yards, to add to his early imperious header. On both occasions Liverpool's defence was hopelessly stretched by crosses. And the defence parted again as Frank Leboeuf's cross and Flo's touch left the 34-year-old defender Steve Clarke unattended to drive home his first goal for six years.

Liverpool's goal, tapped in by Karlheinz Riedle after Danny Murphy's shot was parried, had levelled the scores but distorted the first-half picture. Steve McManaman left shaking his head after what will surely be one of his last Liverpool games. His new contract remains unsigned.

Chelsea warned over 'weak' link

Ian Ross

EVERTON yesterday urged the footballing authorities to ensure that Chelsea do not field a makeshift team in their final Premiership game of the season against Bolton.

The Chelsea chairman Ken Bates has suggested their line-up for the game on Sunday week could be deliberately weakened to safeguard the fitness of key players prior to the final of the European Cup Winners' Cup 72 hours later against Stuttgart in Stockholm.

The Stamford Bridge meeting may be crucial in deciding who will be relegated to the First Division: a victory for Bolton could well move them to a position of safety, so condemning Everton, Barnsley, Tottenham or even Newcastle.

"We would be appalled at the prospect of another club deliberately sending out a weakened side for a game of such obvious significance," said the Everton secretary Michael Dunford. "I would expect the FA Premier League to remind Chelsea — to remind all clubs, in fact — that they must play their strongest side at all times.

"I can sympathise with Chelsea but what would they think if they were in our position? This doesn't just affect us at Everton; several other clubs are still in trouble near the foot of the table."

Ronny Johnsen, Manchester United's utility defender, misses tonight's away visit to Crystal Palace after Norway's national squad doctor Trygve Kase carried out a minor knee operation in Oslo yesterday. Johnsen will be out for three weeks but could still figure in Norway's World Cup plans.

Blackburn Rovers 0 Wimbledon 0

Wilting of Flowers in the cold as Filan feels the heat

Derek Potter

ANATOMY seems to have replaced faith healing as the buzz topic among the football aficionados who like to talk in cosy riddles.

Glenn Hoddle was said to be well pleased by the "spine" of his team after the success against Portugal at Wembley last Wednesday. The England coach may well have a problem in the sacrum region thanks to the ability and ambition of John Filan, born in Sydney 28 years ago.

Though Tim Flowers, one of England's goalkeepers, was a substitute and presumably fit after his shoulder injury, Filan played for the first time since he broke his arm in the 7-2 victory against Sheffield Wednesday last August.

Then Blackburn were performing like runaway champions and Filan might, who knows, have replaced Flowers for good. As it is, Filan expects to stay in the team as Blackburn approach their final three matches hoping to paper over a disastrous sequence of only seven points from the last 33.

Roy Hodgson, their manager, does not envisage a no-play-no-selection problem for Hoddle, who has already had a tiff with his striker Chris Sutton. "No one will convince me that you need to see him play in a situation like this and I was an international team manager," Hodgson, formerly in charge of Switzerland, said. "If Tim isn't in the team, he is not going to forget how to play, is he?"

That is Hoddle's headache. Hodgson has one after a disappointing performance against the ever-resilient Wimbledon. By all accounts he has £25 million at his disposal: now he must decide how to spend it.

Repeatedly buffeted by the opposition, Filan survived an uncomfortable match on both a personal and collective level, with Blackburn sorely missing the influence and experience of four regular players. Wimbledon just survived, this being their fifth clean sheet in six games and 12th draw all told. They, too, have had a pile of injuries. "We had to work hard for a point," said their manager, Joe Kinnear. They always do.

Jason Euell and Carl Cort caused Filan and Blackburn problems and should have scored. Sutton or his sidekick Kevin Gallacher probably would have scored, had they been presented with the type of chances Wimbledon wasted.

Though it was a dismal match, Sutton clearly retains his appetite. It is easy to overlook his powerful liaison with Alan Shearer when they shared 49 of the 80 goals Blackburn scored in nicking the title from Manchester United three years ago.

It was never going to be Blackburn's day and, if the treatment meted out to Filan, displeased Hodgson, he was no less unhappy when a "goal" by Tim Sherwood, who narrowly missed with a more spectacular shot, was disallowed. Any kind of goal would have helped.

Aston Villa 1 Bolton Wanderers 3

Lifeline blunders

Mark Redding

THE InterToto Cup it is then. Two games left, the last at home to Arsenal, and Aston Villa's hopes of a Uefa Cup place look thinner than an anorexic stick insect in a sauna.

Alan Hansen called this defeat by struggling Bolton Wanderers "one of the results of the season" on Match Of The Day and few would argue with him. But it took an impressive amount of collusion from the home side to present Bolton with their first league victory at Villa Park since 1955.

The Oceania Footballer of the Year, Mark Bosnich, was the biggest culprit. On Saturday he would have struggled to win the vote as No. 1 in Puddletown. "Bosnich is the first to fault himself and he accepted the responsibility for the first two goals," said his manager John Gregory gravely.

If the age-old gauge of a goalkeeper is to see how he reacts to a challenge after having nothing to do, then Bosnich failed the test impressively. Bolton's first shot came in the 18th minute but Bosnich got down too late to stop an optimistic swipe from the Villa old boy Neil Cox squeezing in. He was beaten again on his near post at the psychologically important moment just before half-time, when his dive towards Bob Taylor's well-struck shot was even tardier.

As Dwight Yorke — who in midweek had been priced at £16 million by his manager to show that Gregory can at least do his eight times table — had just presented the 31-year-old striker with the ball, the goalkeeper was not entirely culpable. It was yet another symptom of Villa's lackadaisical approach.

The hosts at least began the second half with purpose. Ian Taylor pulling a goal back in the 67th minute. But even the introduction of Stan Collymore, who had missed seven games with a groin injury, could not save them, and in the 84th minute Nathan Blake's header sealed the outcome. "The result was a kick in the pants," said Gregory, who had presided over seven wins out of eight in the league going into this game.

The Trotters moved up a place to third from bottom and have Crystal Palace at home and Chelsea away in which to save their bacon. "When we get a good result we always look to Tottenham and Everton because they are the closest to us and Everton losing was a big boost," said the Welsh striker Blake.

"We had to go for a win today but we're not going to get carried away," Blake emphasised. "No matter what anyone else does, we've got to try and win the last two games." Villa have made sure their InterToto application is already in the post.

Everton 1 Sheffield Wednesday 3

Kendall looks for self-help as the trapdoor opens up

Jon Brodkin

JOHN SPENCER will probably not be the only person suffering heart trouble at Goodison Park when Coventry City visit on the season's final day. Everton travel to Arsenal on Sunday and, given that Bolton are at home to Crystal Palace the previous afternoon, look likely to go into their last match in the bottom three.

Howard Kendall's assessment of this defeat as a "disappointing result" was akin to saying it was "quite difficult" to buy World Cup tickets last week. The despair on the faces of the fans who lingered long after the final whistle suggested that the church on Goodison Road will enjoy an above-average attendance before the Coventry game on Sunday week.

Unfortunately for Everton, whereas Jesus saves, Thomas Myhre was too easily beaten on Saturday. A goal inside six minutes by Mark Pembridge shattered their confidence and the home side rarely looked likely to win.

If, as the Everton manager hinted afterwards, his players have assumed they are too good to go down, the seriousness of the situation must at last have sunk in. "It's important we realise how vital these games are," said Kendall, who should hardly need Attilio Lombardo's interpreter to put that message across. "We can't expect other clubs to do us favours."

Uppermost in his mind must be Chelsea, Bolton's final opponents at Stamford Bridge. That match comes only three days before Gianluca Vialli's team play in the Cup Winners' Cup final, and their minds and more accomplished players may be elsewhere.

Much the same could be said of Everton during a first half in which they allowed Pembridge to add to his early header from Paolo Di Canio's cross with a deflected shot after a poor clearance by Slaven Bilic.

Sadly for Kendall, just as there is no substitute for class, he had no class on the substitutes' bench. He sent on two wingers, Peter Beagrie and John Oster, but what he needed most was a Di Canio. The Italian, whose white boots in combination with the fluorescent yellow ball gave the impression he was playing through a personal snowstorm, was in bewitching form.

Where Everton offered little more than graft, he provided the craft to secure Wednesday's place in the Premiership next season. Fittingly, after Duncan Ferguson had given Everton hope with 72nd-minute header and Wednesday's Andy Booth had been sent off for a second bookable offence, Di Canio sealed the match with a fine solo goal.

"It's not going to be easy to pick ourselves up but we are professionals and we have to do it," said Bilic. "Of course we are down now and we will be down tomorrow but then starts big preparation for the last two games."

It remains to be seen whether they will be down — and out — on May 10.

Scottish round-up

Cards at dug-outs as the tension tells

Patrick Glenn

THE end-of-season agitation that has afflicted the top and the bottom ends of the Premier Division seems likely to produce a heavy workload for the Scottish Football Association disciplinary committee.

At Parkhead, where Celtic faltered with a 0–0 draw against Hibernian, the Edinburgh side's manager Alex McLeish and the Parkhead club's assistant Murdo MacLeod were ushered to the stand by the match referee George Simpson after a verbal collision on the touchline.

At Tynecastle Rangers inflamed the home crowd by beating Hearts 3–0 and reviving their hopes of a 10th successive title. One linesman was the target for an empty whisky bottle and the other was spat at.

At Rugby Park Bobby Williamson and Alex Miller, managers respectively of Kilmarnock, chasing a Uefa Cup place, and relegation-threatened Aberdeen, were also shown red cards after a touchline spat. The prospect of fines and suspensions being imposed seems much more certain than the outcome of the title race.

Celtic remain odds-on favourites but their one-point lead over their fiercest rivals will be a two-point deficit if Rangers beat visiting Kilmarnock on Saturday. Celtic do not play Dunfermline until Sunday, when they will be under severe pressure if they have to win to restore their advantage.

In the last few weeks they have regularly demonstrated a potentially fatal lack of conviction. At home to Hibs, the bottom side, they were once again so tentative that few scoring opportunities were created. Wim Jansen, the head coach, hoped that some of the tiredness his players showed would be shrugged off during the coming free week.

Rangers, who appeared to have ended their own chances with defeat at Pittodrie six days earlier, came back to punish a lethargic Hearts with two goals from Rino Gattuso and one from Jorg Albertz. "We've managed to put a little more pressure on Celtic," said their manager Walter Smith, "but it is still in their hands."

Celtic's best news came from Fir Park, where Dunfermline beat Motherwell 3–1 to secure their Premier Division survival. It means the Fife side have little incentive when they entertain Celtic — except, of course, beating the potential champions.

"But we have to do it for ourselves," said Jansen. "It was obvious from the first minute against Hibs that we were not as sharp as normal. At this moment we know that winning our last two games will bring us the league. It is in our own hands."

In the 5-page sports section





Gun happy
Arsenal draw ever closer to the title
page 15

Other pages
Football 14, 15
Tennis 12
Rugby League 13
Motor Racing 12

The **Guardian** Sport

The London Marathon

McKiernan lives up to the hype

McColgan propels rival to victory



Both champions, the Irishwoman and Spain's Abel Anton (left), used the prompting of rivals to time their runs to perfection. **Duncan Mackay** reports

EVEN with thousands of dollars in prize-money on the line there was proof in the London Marathon yesterday that the Olympian ideal lives on as Ireland's Catherina McKiernan and Spain's Abel Anton secured dramatic victories. Both were first to break the tape down The Mall in their respective races but only after receiving important advice from their chief rivals.

McKiernan admitted she was panicking slightly as Mexico's Adriana Fernandez and Romania's Lidia Simon stretched their early lead to 95 seconds at 16 miles.

"I told Catherina not to let the gap between her and Simon grow too much because she's a class athlete," said Liz McColgan, who finished second.

Anton, meanwhile, was running together with Portugal's Antonio Pinto to try to catch Morocco's Abdelkhader El Mouaziz in the last three miles when the defending champion told him to work alone. "I wasn't feeling good, so I told Abel to go ahead," Pinto said.

McColgan's advice sent McKiernan into overdrive as she picked up the pace so dramatically she easily turned the huge deficit into a 28-second victory over the Scot in 2hr 26min 26sec. McColgan, runner-up for the second consecutive year, missed her personal best by two seconds with her 2.26.54.

McKiernan, 28, finished in a mess after suffering gastric problems from 15 miles onwards.

The Irishwoman was so embarrassed by her difficulties she *did not* follow the blue line on the road denoting the shortest route because she wanted to avoid the television cameras. "The legs were all right but the stomach was rattling," she said.

Such incidents are not unprecedented among London Marathon winners. Steve Jones suffered similar problems in 1985 when he had to answer the call of nature at 23 miles but still set a course record. Joe Doonan, McKiernan's coach, praised his athlete's courage: "It's a measure of the kid she had to live through that and still won," he said.

McKiernan was relieved to claim the victory for other reasons. Since becoming the fastest debutante over the classic 26.2-mile distance with her 2.23.44 victory in Berlin last autumn she has had to live with huge expectations. "There's been a lot of hype," she said. "All the bus shelters in Ireland have had pictures of me advertising this race and there's been a lot in the Irish press."

Hopes that McKiernan might challenge the Kenyan Tegla Loroupe's week-old world record of 2.20.47 ended within the opening two miles when she did not follow the pacemakers as they pulled away, dragging Fernandez with them. But, having struck out on her own for the last 10 miles, McKiernan showed world record potential. Running on her toes like a track athlete, she passed Fernandez and Simon in the 21st mile after completing a 5.15 mile.

McColgan, too, battled stomach problems which prevented her joining the chase with McKiernan. But she rallied in the closing stages to pass Fernandez and Simon and gain revenge over Joyce Chepchumba, the Kenyan who pipped her last year.

"I wish I had gone earlier because I was concentrating too much on my stomach," McColgan said. "I'm disappointed I left it so late."

The co-operation between *Pinto and Anton, the world* champion, was all the more surprising because last week the Portuguese had cast doubts over the huge strides made by Spain's marathon runners. He accused them of using EPO, the banned drug which stimulates red blood cells and increases endurance. Those suspicions will not have been allayed by yesterday's event as Spanish runners filled three of the first seven places.

After Fabian Roncero's win in Rotterdam seven days earlier, Anton became the second Spaniard within a week to claim victory in one of the world's classic races. El Mouaziz seemed to have opened an unassailable lead when he upped the pace at 20 miles. He was still 15 seconds ahead with a mile to go but was powerless to respond as Anton found an extra gear to cruise past him in the final 800 metres to claim the $55,000 (£33,742) first prize — the same as the women's winner.

Anton, 35, would have collected another $25,000 had he not spent the last 200 metres waving to the crowd. By the time he realised he was on target for Pinto's year-old course record of 2.07.55 it was too late and he missed it by two seconds. It was still more than a minute faster than his best. "The most important thing was to win," Anton said. "I didn't think about the money. But maybe now . . ."

Mouzaziz finished second in 2.08.07 with Pinto six seconds behind. For most of the race, Britain's Jon Brown looked capable of living up to his tag of dark horse. "I was all right until the race started at 20 miles," said the Sheffield runner after finishing eighth in 2.11.10. He fared better than Paul Evans, Britain's other main hope, who dropped out at 18 miles.

The leaderboard

Men		Women	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
2 A Mouzaziz (Morocco)	2:08:07	L McColgan (GB)	2:26:54
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
4 J Rey (Spain)	2:08:33	M Renders (Belgium)	2:27:30
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
6 R Stefko (Slovakia)	2:09:53	S Oberem (Germany)	2:28:39
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
8 J Brown (GB)	2:11:10	Wang Yanfang (China)	2:30:47
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
10 [illegible]	2:12:48	M Sutton (GB)	2:32:14
Wheelchair race winners:			
[illegible]	[illegible]	T Grey (GB)	2:02:01



Champion first lady . . . Irish runner Catherina McKiernan fulfils great expectations as she breaks the tape in The Mall to win *the London Marathon. She won her race* in a time of 2hr 26min 26sec and cashed in on the streets of victory as she romped home
PHOTOGRAPHS: TOM JENKINS

Injuries throw England tour into disarray

Robert Armstrong

A SIMMERING row involving England, New Zealand and Australia is set to explode when England's rugby union coach Clive Woodward announces his squad this week for the summer tour of the southern hemisphere.

The Antipodean super powers believe they are going to be short-changed by the Rugby Football Union, which is virtually certain to send out a seriously depleted squad for the Test series instead of the full-strength contingent promised.

Last night the England captain Lawrence Dallaglio hinted that he would be unable play in games against the All Blacks, Australia and the world champions South Africa.

After Wasps' win over Northampton Dallaglio said: "I have a shoulder injury and I have been told on strong medical advice that if I carry on playing it could become chronic and need surgery.

"If you play when you're not fully fit you can pick up secondary injuries. It is a hugely significant tour but England have got some phenomenal talent coming through who would be dying to play for their country.

It is a challenge I would reluctantly give up but my performance has been deteriorating at a rate of knots this season.

"I've made myself available but I've also made Clive Woodward aware of the situation and I expect a three-way decision to be made between myself, Clive and the club."

England's forwards' coach John Mitchell has theatened to pull out of the tour if all the leading players are not included in the touring party. The former All Black *warned that the* tour could rapidly turn into "a disaster" should Woodward fail to assemble a genuine Test squad with strength in depth.

No cramping Steve Cram's style

Paul Weaver finds a former world-record holder mobile enough to 'beat' a former foe

STEVE CRAM's features glistened with a combination of perspiration and the merciful light rain which fell like a sprinkling of holy water during the race. But the agony had gone and he wore a weary smile like a medal. He had just run the classic 26.2 for the first time.

He had done more than that, in fact. Despite a lack of preparation he had finished in 174th place with a time of 2hr 38min 13sec. A classy club runner would have been proud of that. And there had been only one moment of anxiety: "Someone, who might have been confused, shouted 'Come on, Seb' and I looked behind me. Then I realised Seb wasn't running."

Cram, 37, one of Britain's greatest middle-distance runners and the former mile and 1500m world record holder, took some satisfaction in beating Coe's time of 2hr 58min a few years ago.

"I was aiming for 2.45, so I'm well happy with this, especially as I was doing some race commentary for Eurosport on my mobile phone at the same time. I had joined up with a couple of other runners and we helped each other along, although they gave me some stick for my broadcasting.

"They frightened me when they said they had been doing 80 or 90 miles a week in training. I've only managed between 20 and 40 because I've been so busy with Channel 4's Planet Football and, *although I did* 17 six-minute miles on Monday, I had a bit of groin afterwards and did not run again last week. But today it was only really hard work over the last couple of miles.



Cram . . . all smiles

"It was a fantastic experience. I even got carried away and thought I was an athlete again. But then a few old injuries came back to haunt me and I remembered that I was retired.

"I'd often watched the race and wondered what it would be like to compete in, although I put it off and off. There was nowhere where there wasn't a big crowd cheering us on.

"My real aim was to raise some money for Macmillan Cancer Relief and the Northumberland Youth Foundation — and to try and avoid being overtaken by Mickey Mouse down The Mall. And I didn't want to *have to ring my wife Karen* and ask her to pick me up at the 20 miles stage."

Cram has fitted in training during his busy work schedule, squeezing in runs in Argentina, Italy and Japan, and on Saturday he broke off his preparations to fly north to watch his beloved Sunderland play Stoke City. "I'd like to do this again, but not soon."

He had not run beyond the half-marathon distance. His first sense of elation yesterday was when he broke 11 minutes for the first mile — that was how long it took him when he was held up by other competitors during a previous road race.

To watch the London Marathon is to feel a mixture of joy and guilt. We can all do it in three hours. Or four. Five if things get sticky. Six at the outside. While the elite are admired, the ordinary can be envied; if all the runners were glorious winners some spectators can feel like losers.

Calzaghe stops Gimenez in his tracks

John Rawling

JOE CALZAGHE became the first man to stop Juan Carlos Gimenez when the 37-year-old Paraguayan challenger retired *after nine* depressingly one-sided rounds for the World Boxing Organisation super-middleweight title in Cardiff on Saturday.

Gimenez, who had soaked up the Welshman's heaviest body shots, was taken to hospital and found to have four cracked ribs. The injuries may have occurred as early as the second round and partially excused his woefully inadequate challenge.

The WBO had sanctioned the contest as a mandatory defence for Calzaghe of the title he won so stirringly against Chris Eubank last October, but if Gimenez was truly the No. 1 challenger it is a sad indictment of the rest of the division.

Yes, the 26-year-old Calzaghe is a fighter of natural talent who punches heavily and moves impressively. But from the moment he connected with his first right jab the fight lacked any genuine competitive edge.

Gimenez, a veteran of 59 previous professional contests, painfully learned that his skills belong to another era. His cornermen wore the name "Toro" across their shirts but in truth their old bull looked destined for the knackers' yard as Calzaghe won all nine completed rounds.

"He was tough and I had to be patient," said Calzaghe. "It was a good learning fight for me. I have stopped a man who has been boxing since 1982 and had never been stopped before. Duran, Eubank and Benn couldn't do it, but I did."

His promoter Frank Warren now plans to steer Calzaghe towards a unification contest in July, with the International Boxing Federation's champion Charles Brewer the most likely opponent. Brewer recently beat Herol Graham in a title fight in Atlantic City but showed frailties which Calzaghe *can* ruthlessly expose.

A makeshift open-air arena in the picturesque grounds of Cardiff Castle is planned as the venue for this fight, after which Calzaghe is pencilled in *to make his United States* debut in October.

"Joe is an exciting fighter and ultimately my aim is to see him fight Richie Woodhall in an open-air event next *spring*," said Warren. "I believe the best two super-middleweights in the world are on this side of the pond, and a fight between them would set them up for life. It would be huge."



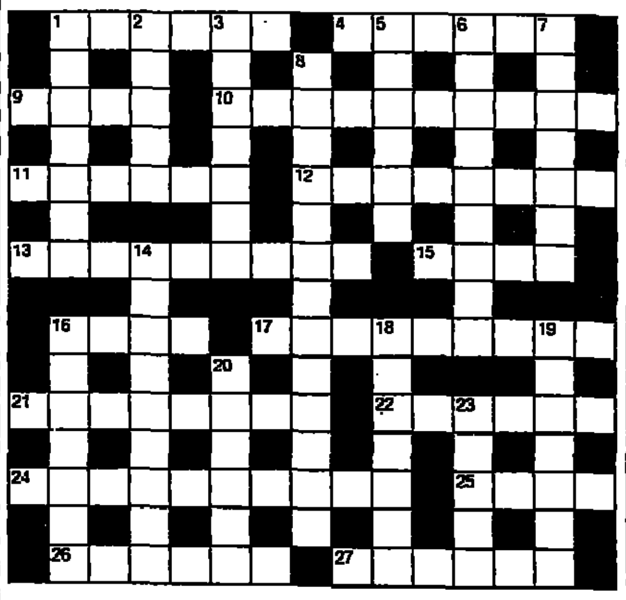
Jaw of iron . . . Gimenez retires LAWRENCE GRIFFITHS

Woodhall, training to defend his World Boxing Council title against Italy's former holder Vincenzo Nardiello in June, said: "Joe is strong and fast and says he is the best, but we'll see *about that when* he faces me. I've got as good a jab as anybody and he'll find things are very different then."

The former WBO featherweight champion Steve Robinson *is likely* to fight for another world title this summer. On Saturday the Welshman outpointed a former French champion, the slippery Jean-Pierre Dibateza, and he is in line to face the WBC champion, Luisito Espinosa of the Philippines, on the undercard of Naseem Hamed's next WBO featherweight title defence in the United States on July 18.

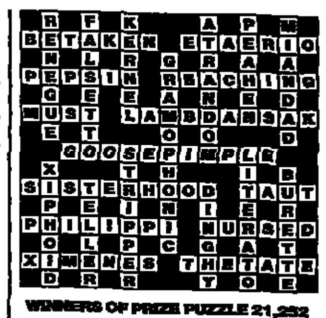
Guardian Crossword No 21,259

Set by Rufus



Across
1 Lower or upper garment (6)
4 Tearaway's daylight robbery (3,3)
9 Picture held firm in frame (4)
10 Number given bill for sleeping accommodation (4-6)
11 He shoots out from hiding (6)
12 Sets aside Tom's battlescars? (8)
13 Cracking assistant to a huntsman (7-2)
15 I returned to receive the king — a terrible person (4)
16 See the key goes to the agent (4)
17 Arrest in case is not ordered (9)
21 Fly doctors to South American capital (8)
22 In depression, find somewhere to drink (6)
24 Hair dressers? (10)
25 Give a signal and slow down (4)
26 Undertake challenge (4,2)
27 Shutter usually closed at night (6)

Down
1 Having cut down, Jack, terribly thin, gains a stone (7)
2 Raise the standard bowler's approach (3,2)
3 Clamp down in French Army (7)
5 Umpire corrupt? Yes, corrupt (6)
6 Talons hug brutally in attack (9)
7 A sunny spot? (7)
8 One does not wish one's children to be brought up in it (8,5)
14 Two noises not amounting to much (9)
16 He and I are inseparable (7)
18 Meet, and come up to expectations (7)
19 Wreck aground despite exercising caution (2,5)
20 Oriental wear for doctor in family circle (6)
23 Refuse to be seen out with Capone (5)



WINNERS OF PRIZE PUZZLE 21,252
This week's winners of a Collins English Dictionary are Ron Williams and Liz Stevens of Castletown, Isle of Man, Eric Jones of Birkenhead, Merseyside, R Sharpe of Backwell, Bristol, Helen Patrick of Cambridge, and Marie Ellis of Bradford, West Yorkshire.
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One year on
The Tories ... out in the co...
...2 with European ...

Cance... 'key g... discov...
Scientists fores... preventative pi...

Tim Radford Science Editor

'It's a very important discovery. It means in the future scien... could poten... use genetic engineering to prevent ce... cancers'



LABOUR'S FIRST YEAR

'It was not difficult to find people who looked like Tories, and indeed had been Tories. It was difficult to find people who still were.' Matthew Engel goes to Wimbledon, where lifelong Conservatives are warming to New Labour. Page 4

'Powerf... she wa...

Inside

هكذا من الاصل